# The Order Board

# Volume 53 No. 1

# February, 2025



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# **Tracks Ahead for the Cajon Division**

# Upcoming Events Details Inside!

#### April 26, 2025:

Cajon Division Spring Meet Messiah Lutheran Church, 6625 Dale St., Buena Park, CA 90621

#### May 24

Tentative Nevada Meet

#### June 14

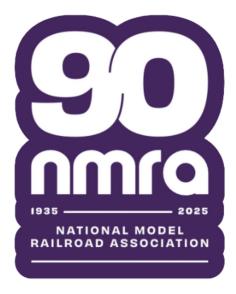
Tentative Nevada Meet

#### July 14-19, 2025:

NMRA 2025 National Convention, Station No. VI Sheraton Detroit Novi 21111 Haggerty Road, Novi, MI 48375 <u>https://www.nmra2025.com/</u>

#### September 3-6, 2025:

PSR 2025-Pacific Southwest Express Convention Hilton Irvine at John Wayne Airport (SNA) 18800 MacArthur Blvd., Irvine, CA 92612 <u>www.pacificswexpress.org</u>



#### CAJON DIVISION OFFICERS

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Donations Chair Brian Neely donations@cajondivision.org



# From the Caboose



Harold Helland, MMR, Cajon Division Director

Hello Cajon Members. I just returned from the World's Greatest Hobby Train Show in Costa Mesa. I am pleased to report that the Model Railroad hobby seems to be doing great. The show was extremely crowded on Saturday and there was an abundance of guests on Sunday. There were two large buildings filled with model railroads. One held all the vendors and several manufacturers including Lionel, Bachmann, Broadway Limited, and Scale Trains. The second held the modular clubs. All scales were represented from Z scale to G scale. Everyone appeared to be having a great time.

The Cajon Division is sponsoring Layouts of the Cajon Division. These are home model railroad tours presented by Cajon Division members. If you would like to host a tour at your home model railroad, please contact our Division Superintendent, Paul Stoner. The Cajon Spring Meet is scheduled for April 26 at the Messiah Lutheran Church in Buena Park. Planning for the event is progressing, so I am sure you will want to mark your calendars and save the date for the Cajon Spring Meet.

Planning for the 2025 Pacific Southwest Region Annual Convention which will be held at the Hilton Irvine - John Wayne Airport is well under way. The convention, "Pacific Southwest Express" is scheduled from September 3 through 6, 2025 and will feature modular railroads at the hotel which will include operating sessions, home layout tours, prototype tours, home operating sessions, numerous clinics, Celebration of Models, general interest activities, and an Awards Banquet. There will be opportunities to find something new for your home model railroad from Silent Auction, Swap Meet, Hobo Auction, or the Vendors Booths. We are planning four days packed with model railroad fun.

Prototype Tours include Los Angeles Union Station and the Southern California Railway Museum. In addition to the normal fun at the Southern California Railway Museum, we will be focusing on Santa Fe 5704 which is expected to be there by September. SCRM will also provide an opportunity for you to drive a diesel engine. The Los Angeles Union Station tour includes a behind the scenes tour of areas not open to the public. The original refurbished ticket counters and the Fred Harvey restaurant will be included in the tour.

The convention will end with an Awards Banquet and our guest speaker, Cinthia Priest, Editor NMRA Magazine. The NMRA is celebrating 90 years of service to model railroad enthusiasts this year. As an NMRA member, you definitely want to help celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary and join in the fun at the Pacific Southwest Express convention.





# From the Caboose (Continued)

Harold Helland, MMR, Cajon Division Director





Pacific Southwest Express PSR 2025 Convention September 3 thru 6, 2025 Hilton Irvine – John Wayne Airport

www.pacificswexpress.org

#### What is New on the Website

Banquet Dinner Choices Roasted Stuffed Chicken Braised Short Ribs Pasta Primavera

Keynote Speaker Cinthia Priest – Editor NMRA Magazine

#### Prototype Tours

Los Angeles Union Station Behind the scenes tour of areas not open to public Original Ticket Counters Fred Harvey Restaurant

Southern California Railway Museum West's largest collection of railway locomotives Guided Tour of Museum Opportunity to drive a diesel locomotive

Operating Sessions

Orange County Modular Railroaders – At Hilton Hotel Four Home Model Railroad Operating Sessions

Register Now for the Convention and Reserve a Hotel Room www.pacificswexpress.org

# From the Brass Hat



#### Paul Stoner, Cajon Division Superintendent



This is my first "From the Brass Hat" column after taking over as your Cajon Division Superintendent at the start of this year and I'm still a bit overwhelmed. I'm following in some giant footsteps by previous holders of this office. Joel Morse, Dennis Iverson, and others have worked hard to create meaningful experiences for the Cajon Division membership. For Joel, I know it was particularly difficult to keep the division relevant during the pandemic. I will be working hard to fill the shoes that they left.

Last year was an active year for the Cajon Division with NMRA National Convention in Long Beach as a high point for many of us. We also saw successful Spring and Fall Division Meets as well as our monthly membership open houses. Now, we are preparing for another event-filled year. Many of us attended the Great Train Show/Worlds Greatest Hobby Show in Costa Mesa earlier this month. By all reports that I've heard, it was a huge success. I hope you were able to talk to your favorite manufacturer and visit the many great layouts that were there.

Our next Cajon Division event will be the Spring Meet on April 26 at the Messiah Lutheran Church in Buena Park. This will be similar to Cajon Meets with a swap meet, clinics, Celebration Room for models, Hobo Auction, and membership meeting. I am looking for volunteers to present clinics. Even if you have given a clinic at a past convention or you would like to update a clinic presented at a past meet, please volunteer to present it again. If you are interested in presenting a clinic, please contact me at <u>Super-</u><u>intedent@CajonDivision.org</u>

I would like to encourage everyone attending the Spring Meet to enter a model in the Celebration of Models Room. Whether it's a model that you would like to have evaluated for the Achievement Program or just to place a model on display, we would like to see your work. I know everyone has those models that they are particularly pleased with, so bring them in and show off your work! Everyone that enters a model in the Celebration Room will receive a sheet of tickets for the Hobo Auction. The Board of Directors has just approved new evaluation guidelines to help improve the consistency of model evaluation. Whether or not you enter a model, I also like to encourage you to be a model evaluator. I know from my own experience that evaluation of other modelers work has made me a better modeler. If you would like more information on becoming an evaluator, contact Carl Heimberger or Mike Allee in the Celebration Room.

We had seven layouts of the Layouts of the Cajon Division Open Houses in 2023 and four in 2024. These were very popular with the membership, and I will be continuing that program in 2025. So, I'm looking for layout owners to host an open house in the coming year. Your layout doesn't need to be a work of art, you just need to be interested in showing off your work. The Cajon Division will provide up to \$50.00 to reimburse you for food and drinks that you might serve. If you are interested in hosting on open house, contact me at <u>Superintendent@CajonDivision.org</u> and we will work out a date.

This year the Cajon Division will be hosting the Pacific Southwest Region regional convention in September. The Pacific Southwest Express Convention will be held at the Irvine Hilton Hotel from September 3 - 6, 2025. More detailed information is available elsewhere in this newsletter. I am also looking for members with home layouts to open their layouts to convention attendees. If you think you would like to participate in the convention layout tour contact me at <u>Superintendent@CajonDivision.org</u> and we will work out a schedule that is best for your situation.



# From the Brass Hat (continued)

Paul Stoner, Cajon Division Superintendent



Finally, I would like to thank all the members of the Cajon Division that voted for me to take on the office of Superintendent. I am still struggling a bit to fill the shoes of the past Superintendent, but I will be working hard to continue to make the Cajon Division a valuable resource for the membership.

# **Pacific Southwest Express Convention**

# **Call for Member Layouts**

Paul Stoner, Cajon Division Superintendent

One of the highlights of any NMRA convention is visiting the home layouts of other modelers. Planners for the 2025 Pacific Southwest Express Convention in Irvine during September 3 - 6, 2025 are looking for individuals to open their home layouts to attendees of the convention.

If you would like to share the experience of the convention with your fellow modelers, we're ready to include you in the convention fun. Your layout doesn't have to look like those in your favorite magazine, you just have to be interested in showing your fellow modeler what you have been working on and in spending a few hours talking about model railroading. In fact, input from visitors to your layout may provide you with some new ideas and tricks! If you are interested in having your layout included in the convention layout tour and showing others what you are working on, contact Paul Stoner at : superintendent@cajondivision.org.

# Layouts of the Cajon Division

# **Call for Member Layouts**

Paul Stoner, Cajon Division Superintendent

We had seven *Layouts of the Cajon Division* Open Houses in 2023 and four in 2024, and we want to continue to schedule these events, which have been well attended and enjoyed by the membership. We need more layouts to feature in 2025.

We are looking for layout owners to join in the fun and host an open house next year. Your layout does not have to be the "finished article", you just have to be interested in showing your fellow members what you have been working on and spending a few hours talking about model railroading. In fact, input from visitors at your Open House may provide you with some new ideas and tricks! The Cajon Division will provide up to \$50.00 to reimburse you for food and drinks that you might serve. If you are interested in hosting an Open House and showing us what you have been doing, please contact me and we'll work out a date that works for you. Email Paul Stoner at <u>superintendent@cajondivision.org</u>.



# Notes from the Chief Clerk

#### Gary Stenberg, Cajon Division Chief Clerk



Greetings All!!! Rudy Spano, the PSR Regional Membership Chair has sent out the following message to all the Divisions in PSR. It includes important information on how to keep your current information updated.

#### Keeping Your Membership Info Up To Date

By keeping your NMRA Membership Info current, you guarantee that you will receive all email correspondence, Newsletters, etc., from the NMRA National Office, the Pacific Southwest Region and your local Division. Adding your phone number if you haven't already done so, allows for a more personal outreach by the Division Membership Chairs.

A Request for a change to your Membership Info must be made by you on the NMRA Website. No one else can change your Membership Information, even if you request changes be made to Division Regional personnel.

In order to change your Membership Information, log on to the NMRA.org website with your username or email address and your unique password.

On the home page on the blue Navigation Bar, click on Membership. Scroll down to the last menu choice, Request for Membership Info Changes, click on that choice. Complete and submit the form to request changes to your Membership Info.

If you have trouble completing and submitting the Change form, please contact Pat Rogan, Cajon Division Membership Chair for help at:

membership@cajondivision.org

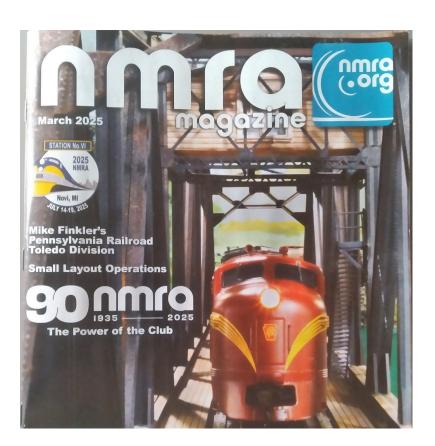


# The Backshop

Gary Butts, MMR, Cajon Division AP Chairman

Check out the March 2025 Issue of the <u>NMRA Magazine</u> for an article titled "Small Layout Operations" by Gary Butts on page 16. It explains, in detail, operations on his Gary & Sandy Railroad and K.J. Lumber Extension.







# What's Happening in Nevada?

Craig McCormick, Asst. Superintendent-NV



In January, I hosted a tour of my home layout, the Western Continental. In February, Paul Mickelson hosted a Hobo gathering at his home layout, the Middling Creek Railroad. See photos from both events elsewhere in this edition. We are working on two other potential upcoming meets on May 24 and June 14. They have not been finalized as of yet, but keep the dates open on your calendars. Flyers will be sent out to the Division with specific details once scheduling is complete.

<u>Westside Trains in Las Vegas New YouTube Video</u> Check it out! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVPnaCUwvLI



New Web and Social Media Chairs



#### Kurt Matthews, Publications/Web Chair

Dan Moran has signed off as our Web and Social Media Chair, and we thank his for his service. The role has been split, with Kurt Matthews taking over the Web portion and Joel Morse the Social Media aspect. A new look website is in the making and Kurt is being trained by Dan and taking tutorials on the new hosting software from Joomla.







Paul Stoner, Cajon Division Superintendent

A great way to share some of what your know with your fellow members and earn some points towards your Volunteer or Author AP Certification would be to present at Clinic at the Buena Park Event in April 2025. If you are interested, contact Paul Stoner at <a href="mailto:superintendent@cajondivision.org">superintendent@cajondivision.org</a>. Subjects can be:

3D Printing, Laser Cutting and Other Computer Modeling Methods Achievement Programs and Standards Setting DCC, LCC, Wiring & Other Electronics Layout Design and Construction Layout Operations Modeling Techniques and Ideas Prototype Railroads History Any Other Areas of Interest



Craig McCormick graciously opened up his HO Scale Western Continental Layout for a Cajon Division tour in Las Vegas on January 11. The event was a packed house with over 30 people, including 5 NMRA members in attendance. NMRA member Paul Mickelson conducted a mini clinic on adding aluminum tubing to plastic apertures and making trees. A lot of good discussion on modeling topics was had.

This freelance two deck layout is inspired by the steam to diesel transition era up to the 1960's, running multiple road names such as Santa Fe, Union Pacific, Southern Pacific, Burlington and Northern Pacific. These railroads covered the western United States from Chicago to Seattle and New Orleans to San Diego. The layout is still in the construction phase and techniques of construction can be observed. All track is in place with more structures planned and much work to do on scenery and ballasting. Multiple structures were built by the host and are mostly AMB and Bar Mills Kits purchased through estate sales, model railroad swap meets or online. When another builder is known, the structure is labeled with credit to them. The layout is 2/3 complete. Photos of the event and layout are on the following pages.

Many thanks to Craig for sponsoring this event!

# The Layout at a GlanceName: Western ContinentalScale: HOSize: 18'x 14.5'Freelance running multiple road namesEra: Transition to 1960'sLocale: Western USALevels: Two connected via helixTrack: Over 300', 25x turnouts, 2x double<br/>crossovers, 1x 90 crossing, 1x 45 crossing, 1x<br/>wyeControl: Digitrax DCC in 4 power districts



Nevada Layout Tour Event Photos





# Layout Photos



**Overall View** 



Left Side Upper Deck



# Layout Photos



Middle Upper Deck



#### **Right Side Upper and Lower Decks**



# Las Vegas Hobo's Train Meeting Photos

On February 15, 2025, Paul Mickelson held a Hobo Train Meeting at his HO Scale Middling Creek Railroad. It is a large double deck layout, and includes a steel mill. Here are photos of the event. Big thanks to Paul for hosting such a fun gathering.

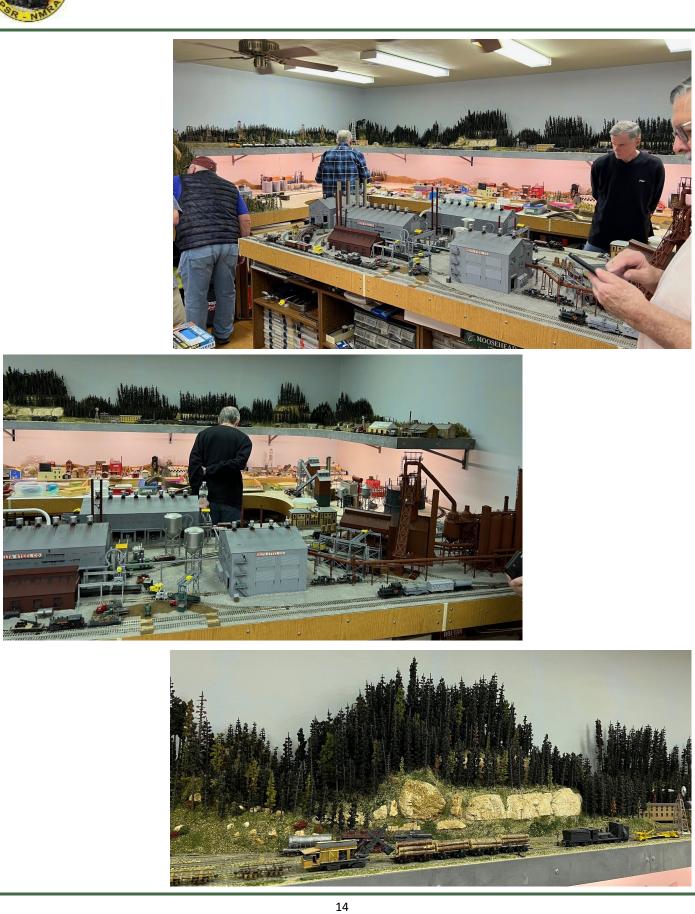








# Las Vegas Hobo's Train Meeting Photos





# Worlds Greatest Hobby Train Show

#### Kurt Matthews, Publications/Web Chair

The World's Greatest Hobby Train Show was held at the Orange County Fairgrounds in Costa Mesa, CA on February 15 and 16. The Cajon Division was represented by a recruitment table located in the Layouts Building and staffed by division volunteers on both days. Members also were engaged in modular layout displays from the Orange County Modular Railroaders (HO Scale) and Orange County Ngineers (N Scale).

#### **NMRA** Table

See <u>https://ocngineers.weebly.com/shows.html</u>

**OC Ngineers Modular Layout** 



Left to Right: Paul Lambert, Mona Raymer, Steve Cole and Paul Raymer





Paul Stoner, Cajon Superintendent

OCMR Modular Layout, See <a href="https://ocmr.us/">https://ocmr.us/</a>



**Allen Kershaw** 



Brandyn Simmering



Left to Right: Carl Heimberger and Travis Heimberger



# The Editor's Column

#### Kurt Matthews, Publications/Web Chair



#### <u>Thank You</u>

A big thanks to outgoing Cajon Division Web/Social Media Chair Dan Moran for his years and service to the Division. Dan has been very helpful in tutoring me on taking over the Order Board publishing and expanding my duties to include sending out the Cajon emails and managing the website. We are still in the process of transitioning the website into a new operating software that will greatly improve its functionality.

#### **Bridge Line Historical Society**

As I mentioned in previous issues, I am a fan of the Delaware & Hudson Railroad, especially the diesel era immediately preceding Conrail in 1976. That era was rich in diverse power such as Alco road switchers, GE U-Boats, Baldwin Sharks and Alco PAs (4 ex-Santa Fe units that used to run passengers from Los Angeles to San Diego). The Bridge Line Historical Society is the official historical society for the railroad, and I am a member. The Society publishes a black and white newsletter monthly. It contains historical information of past years along with articles on current rail operations in New York, New England and Pennsylvania. Their website is: <a href="https://bridge-line.org/">https://bridge-line.org/</a>. If you are interested, check it out.

#### Feature Articles

I plan to author feature articles within the Order Board on places to visit, prototype information and modelling subjects. Last issue I wrote about my visit to the California State Railroad Museum. This issue I include a short article on the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum. I have other subjects to write about, and can also publish articles I wrote for the Bridge Line Historical Society. Hopefully, they will be of interest to some of you. In that light, if you have material you would like to have published and shared with the Cajon Membership, send it my way (<u>editor@cajondivison.org</u>). It can even be just a rough draft and I would be happy to edit it for grammar and spelling (not that my own is that infallible).

#### **Interesting Find on You Tube**

In my constant poking around You Tube, I found an interesting hour long video from Mike Osborne. Mike is a recently retired SP/UP employee, who served in the greater LA area for over 40 years. I had the pleasure of teaming with Mike for the Surfliner Convention tour to GEMCO yard, and he also gave a clinic on the SP at the convention. He has a wealth of detailed knowledge. The video I found is of him relating a typical trip on the SP from Taylor Yard in LA to Bakersfield in the late 1970's/early 1980's. It was released roughly a year ago. Check it out here:

"A Young Brakeman's Journey on SP's LABRF" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G6ISFTrDvqU



# **Membership Report**

#### Patrick Rogan, Membership Chair



Let's welcome our new members since December 2024:

#### **December:**

• Ricky Guinn, Henderson, NV

#### January:

- Ian Dews, Bishop, CA
- Erin Dews, Bishop, CA
- Robert Sibley, Henderson, NV

The Cajon Division communicates with its members by email. If your email address is not on file with the NMRA you are missing valuable communications from the Cajon Division.

To update your email with the NMRA go to nmra.org, and in the upper left hand corner, login to the Member Log-In Registration (if you have not registered on the NMRA website you will need to register). Once logged in, in the upper left hand corner, click on Member Info. Above your user name click on Edit and then update your email address in the space provided and save your changes. Now you should start receiving email messages from the Cajon division. If that might be too difficult for you can contact me at <u>membership@cajondivision.org</u> and I will have the NMRA office update your email for you.

January, 2025							
County in Bold							
Clark County	49	Orange County	127	Riverside County	42	San Bernardino	
Henderson	13	Anaheim	7	Beaumont	2	Angeles Oaks	⊢
Las Vegas	32	Aliso Viejo	2	Calimesa	1	Apple Valley	<u> </u>
Mesquite	1	Buena Park	4	Cathedral City	2	Chino	<u> </u>
North Las Vegas	3	Costa Mesa	4	Cherry Valley	1	Fontana	-
tortin 200 Voguo		Dana Point	2	Corona	5	Hesperia	$\vdash$
Total	49	Fountain Valley	2	Hemet	3	Joshua Tree	$\vdash$
		Fullerton	9	La Quinta	2	Needles	$\vdash$
		Garden Grove	4	Menifee	2	Ontario	$\vdash$
Inyo County	3	Huntington Beach	8	Mira Loma	2	Rancho Cucamonga	+
		Irvine	8	Moreno Valley	1	Redlands	$\vdash$
Bishop	3	La Habra	1	Murietta	1	San Bernardino	$\vdash$
bioinop		Laguna Beach	1	Palm Desert	2	Sugarloaf	$\vdash$
Total	3	Laguna Hills	3	Palm Springs	2	Twin Peaks	$\vdash$
		Laguna Niguel	5	Riverside	8	Upland	$\vdash$
		Lake Forest	5	Sun City	1	Victorville	$\vdash$
		Los Alamitos	4	Temecula	3	Yucaipa	$\vdash$
		Mission Viejo	7	Temescal Valley	1	Yucca Valley	
		Orange	7	Wildomar	3		$\vdash$
		Placentia	4				$\vdash$
		Rando Santa Margarita	2	Total	42	Total	$\square$
		Rancho Mission Viejo	2				$\square$
		San Clemente	3				$\square$
		San Juan Capistrano	2				
		Santa Ana	11				$\square$
		Seal Beach	5				
		Tustin	2				
		Villa Park	2				
		Westminster	3				
		Yorba Kinda	8				
		Total	127				1

# **Cajon Division Spring Meet Model Awards**



#### Mike Alee, Contest Chair



There are two ways in which one can enter an item in the Celebration Room, as an item for evaluation, using NMRA guidelines, with the possibility of receiving a Merit Award, or as an item entered for "Display" and not to be evaluated. A Merit Award is one step in earning the title of Master Model Railroader (MMR<sup>®</sup>). All items in the Celebration Room are automatically entered into the People's Choice Award category.

Some of the categories may only have one, two or no entries. A modeler could have received a certificate for first, second or third place, possibly a Merit Award, if they had entered a model. Do you have models that would place in the categories, but you're a little apprehensive about showing your skills to fellow modelers? At the division meet it's just modelers of the local area. The models are identified by number, the modeler's name doesn't appear. The only time a name would be associated with the model is when a modeler receives an award for their modeling ability. A personally proud moment.

A revised set of contest rules has been adopted by the Cajon Division Board and are posted in this edition. No significant changes except for emphasis on it being an 'evaluated' event rather than a 'judged' event with the goal being to solicit more participation. The purpose of the event is for model builders not to be pressured into competition with other models, but to be used as a learning experience for individual skills.



# **Call for Model Railroad Donations**

#### Brian Neely, Cajon Division Donations Chair

"One man's trash is another man's treasure" seems like the perfect reason for every model railroad swap meet since the beginning of time. But it also applies to the items that appear for bid at our Cajon Division Hobo Auctions, which next takes place at our upcoming 2025 Spring Meet in April.

Many members don't realize that every item that appears in the Hobo Auction was donated by a Cajon Division member or local hobby shop. Our Hobo Auction supplies of donated items are getting very low, and we need your unneeded model railroad supplies to the Cajon Division, so we can continue this tradition.

Every one of us has bought and stored items that we know we will never use, not on the current layout and not on the next layout, because our model railroading focus, need, or interest has changed. These items are cluttering up our limited storage space. Sure, you could wait until you get around to selling your items at swap meet after swap meet until it's gone or you can just donate the items to the Cajon Division.

The Cajon Division (and the PSR) are 501(c)(3) Charitable Organizations under the IRS and California tax codes and therefore you may be able to take a tax deduction for the items you donate. When you donate items to the Cajon Division, we provide you with a receipt for your taxes.

If you have items to donate for our upcoming April Spring Meet, contact me directly at <u>donations@cajondivision.org</u> and arrange to donate your items to the Cajon Division. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



# Adopted February 10, 2025

One bookkeeping note from the Editor. The links within do not work as some file 'gymnastics' were needed to copy the information into the Order Board. You can copy/paste the links into your internet browser instead.



#### Cajon Division Celebration Rules Pacific Southwest Region, NMRA Revision - 5/10/2025



#### **Contest Purpose**

The primary aim of the Cajon Division Celebration is to provide a platform for members to display the results of their modeling efforts for evaluation and the appreciation, enjoyment, and education of the membership. The basic goal for contest participants is to provide an incentive to model and provide constructive criticism to assist the modeler in improving their personal modeling skills. This is accomplished by evaluation of models against defined parameters of quality modeling, through a combination of comparison with the work of fellow modelers modeling techniques, attention to detail and evaluation of models against defined parameters of quality modeling. All types of models are of interest to our members and for this reason the evaluation is held within the framework of the Celebration of Models, Photos & Crafts.

#### **Evalauation Venues**

Cajon Division Evaluations are to be held at all Cajon Division regularly scheduled Membership Meets. At a minimum, Cajon Division evaluations shall be held twice annually in conjunction with the Fall and Spring membership meets as required by the Cajon Division By-Laws. Additional Cajon Division evaluations may be scheduled by the Board of Directors provided timely notification to the membership is provided to allow time for members to plan their model submissions.

#### **Celebration of Models Submissions**

Display Space shall be provided in the Celebration of Model location to provide for two Submission Categories. All submissions accepted for display shall be directly railroad related or found within the context of the area normally or prototypically found near or in support of railroading. Submission Categories

- 1. Judged Model Evaluation: Models to be evaluated for Merit Award eligibility.
- 2. People's Choice: non-evaluated, as well as railroad related Arts and Crafts.

#### **Entrant Eligibility**

**Evaluated Model Evaluation**. Any NMRA member in good standing may submit models for evaluation in the Model Evaluation provided they are not engaged in a commercial business related to the model submitted. Unmodified preassembled commercial models are not eligible for submission in the Model Evaluation. Commercial kits are eligible. Non-NMRA event attendees are not permitted to submit models in the Model Evaluation.



# Adopted February 10, 2025

**People's Choice Contest:** Any fully registered attendee may enter items for display and the associated popular vote with the exception of anyone deriving more than 50% of their income from the area related to the article entered.

#### **Evaluated Model**

**Evaluation Rules.** Entries shall be evaluated by teams of experienced evaluators using the matrix point scoring system in accordance with the current NMRA Achievement Program Judging Guidelines and documentation. Since the NMRA AP judging guidelines and matrices are used in determining the evaluated winner scoring, those models that score above 87.5 points in evaluation are automatically qualified to receive an NMRA Achievement Program Merit award certificate in their identified model category.

**Model Scale**. All scales shall be combined in each of the categories. There shall be no divisions of entries within each category for different scales.

#### Model Categories.

1. Steam Locomotive: All types of locomotives where the prototype was powered by steam. The model must include an electric motor or other means of propulsion and be capable of operation to be eligible for the category.

2. Diesel and Other Locomotives: All types of locomotives except for those in Category 1, above, and traction types, Category 3, below. The model must include an electric motor or other means of propulsion and be capable of operation to be eligible for the category. In the case of multiple joined locomotives, at least one of the units must be powered.

3. Traction Powered Locomotives: All equipment associated with urban, suburban, and interurban electrically powered railroads. The model must include an electric motor or other means of propulsion and be capable of operation to be eligible for the category.

4. Passenger Car: All types of passenger revenue carrying equipment, including coaches, observation, mail, baggage, and combine cars, as well as powered rail buses and RDC cars. Express reefers are included in this category.

5. Freight Car: All types of freight revenue carrying cars, not including express reefers.

6. Caboose: All, including traditional, bobbers, drovers, and transfer types.

7. Non-Revenue: Right-of-way/track maintenance cars, rail and inspection cars, railroad cranes, and others not considered directly involved in revenue service.

# CON DIVISION

# **Model Contest Rules**

# Adopted February 10, 2025

8. Structure On-Line: Structures which are adjacent to and have direct access to railroad tracks. This would include mobil cranes, skip loaders, fork lifts, and caterpillars

9. Structure Off-Line: Structures which do not have direct access to railroad tracks.

10. Display/Diorama: Model scenes which may include multiple structures, locomotives, rolling stock, scenery elements and other details. All elements will be judged as a part of the entire scene. The modeler may request a specific element be evaluated separately and eligible for AP Merit award. The Contest Chair will review the request and determine if a fair evaluation can be given.

Evaluated Model Evaluation. There shall be awards presented in every populated Evaluated Model category containing qualified models. Qualified models are those that earn a minimum evaluation score of 50 points (40% of the available total). Certificates and ribbons shall be presented\* for all models placing First through Third and Best-of-Show as follows:

- Best-of-Show shall receive a certificate and purple ribbon\*\*
- First place shall receive certificate and blue ribbon.
- Second place shall receive certificate and red ribbon.
- Third place shall receive certificate and white ribbon.

\*Certificates may be mailed to the evaluation winners after the contest if time does not permit completion at the event.

\*\*The Best-of-Show model is removed from its evaluation category and the remaining model placements in that category are advanced to First-through-Third in that category.

Additionally, any Cajon Division member's model placing Best-of-Show or First-through-Third that also earns a Merit Award (87.5 points or more) shall also receive a Cajon Division Plaque.

Models earning a Merit Award placing below Third place shall receive an Honorable Mention certificate and ribbon.

Evaluated Model Evaluation Forms.

1. Model Entry Form, NMRA Form #901, latest revision, available on the NMRA Website. Modelers who desire to have their model(s) included in the Model Evaluation must fill out this form and submit it at the time of submission of the model(s). A claim check will be provided for each item entered, which must be presented to retrieve entries after the contest.

2. Model Contest Judges Score Sheet, Form #902, PSR version, latest revision. One copy of this form will be provided to the modeler for each model entered. This form will be prepared by and available from the Cajon Division Contest committee chairman or representative, also available on the Cajon Website < https://www.cajondivision.org/ >.



Adopted February 10, 2025

# People's Choice Contest for Display-only Models and Railroad related Arts and Crafts

 Rules. Any railroad related model, art object or craft item can be entered and displayed for the enjoyment and appreciation of the event attendees and is automatically entered in these categories without need of evaluation paperwork. To ensure owner identification for model return purposes, the Model Contest Entry Form, Form #901, latest revision, available on the NMRA Website shall be submitted with the model.

Awards will be determined by a popular vote of the members attending the event who cast a vote. A voting container and ballots shall be provided in the contest room.

#### People's Choice Contest Categories.

- 1. Locomotives. (All types)
- 2. Rolling stock. (All types)
- 3. Structures. (All types)
- 4. Arts and Crafts. (All types)
- 5. Thumbs
- 6. Favorite Train

People's Choice Evaluation Awards. Awards shall be presented for First-through-Third place

according to popular vote tally for each of the four People's Choice Categories as follows.

- First place shall receive certificate and blue ribbon.
- Second place shall receive certificate and red ribbon.
- Third place shall receive certificate and white ribbon.

#### People's Choice Forms.

 Model Contest Entry Form, Form #901, latest revision, available on the NMRA Website or in the Celebration Room

# **Cajon Division Celebration General Information**

**Forms**. Each entry must be accompanied by the official NMRA form(s), properly filled out and signed by the entrant or his assigned proxy. The required forms for each Evaluation Event are listed in the description of that event. Proxy entries must be accompanied by a letter of authorization signed by the entrant. Proxy entries are intended to allow those who cannot attend personally to participate in the Evaluation. Evaluation forms should be completed prior to the time of entry. A claim check will be provided for each item entered, which must be presented to retrieve entries after the contest.



Adopted February 10, 2025

**Number of Entries**. There shall be no restrictions on the number of models entered by a single entrant in the Model Evaluation. In the division of Display-only-models and Arts and Crafts, each entrant is limited to a maximum of five entries in this category. Joint entries (work performed by more than one modeler) are not eligible for evaluation entry.

**Prior Award Restrictions**. Models which have placed Best-of-Show or First place in any prior NMRA National, Regional or Divisional Contest cannot be entered in a following Cajon Division celebration.

**Schedule**. The Cajon Division Contest Chairman, in cooperation with the Cajon Division Board of Directors or Superintendent, shall establish the Celebration Room schedule to include time windows for model entry, judging, and pickup. If possible, this schedule will be distributed to the membership through the Order Board newsletter and electronic distribution prior to the Event. In any case, such schedule shall be posted at the contest location.

**Contest Committee**. The Cajon Division Contest Committee shall consist of the Cajon Division Contest Chairman, the Cajon Division Achievement Program Manager and any Contest Chairman appointees. The Contest Chairman is responsible for the maintenance of this document, with input and review by the Committee members. The Committee is responsible for the conduct and administration of Cajon Division including staffing; recruitment and training of evaluators; and resolution of rule questions or queries at evaluation events.

**Cajon Division Celebration Costs**. Costs associated with the conduct of Cajon Division celebration such as venue rent, award costs, security, etc. are the responsibility of the Cajon Division general fund. Allocation of these funds are at the discretion of the Contest Committee Chairman as chartered by the Cajon Division Board of Directors and the Cajon Division By-Laws. The Contest Chairman should seek Cajon Division Board of Directors approval for any extra-ordinary or unusual contest expenses prior to purchase.

**Evaluated Model Evaluators.** Evaluator shall be members of the NMRA who are recognized as experienced and adept modelers by their peers (Master Model Railroaders are desirable, but not a requirement). They need not be Cajon Division members. They must be totally conversant with the NMRA judging guidelines. Members of the Cajon Division Contest Committee may be evaluators and they may enter models in the contest, but they must recuse themselves from evaluating any models in the specific model category they have entered. If possible, the evaluating teams should consist of five teams of at least two and preferably three evaluators each, assigned to a specific evaluation matrix category. One evaluator will be appointed Senior Evaluator for the Model Evaluation. The Senior Evaluator shall clarify points or questions, verify point totals and will determine who will be the matrix category evaluating team leaders. No evaluating shall be conducted outside the evaluated model <del>contest</del> entries. In the event of a lack of available evaluators and they may enter models in the contest, but they must recuse themselves from evaluate that category for all judged evaluated model <del>contest</del> entries. In the event of a lack of available evaluators and they may enter models in the contest, but they must recuse themselves from, evaluating teams may evaluate up to two different matrix categories maximum. If



# Adopted February 10, 2025

there is a severe lack of evaluators, evaluating teams may be reconstituted with different members for different categories.

**Contest Room Etiquette**. Visitors to the contest room are prohibited from touching or otherwise interfering with displayed models or arts and crafts. Visitors to the contest room during evaluating shall not converse with, or otherwise interfere with the evaluators. Contest room staff will admonish those who do not observe these rules and they may be asked to leave the contest room.

**Contest Security**. Neither the Cajon Division nor the Pacific Southwest Region assume responsibility in the event of loss or damage to an entry. Reasonable protection will be provided for the contest room contents in that a member of the contest committee shall be present in the contest room at all times when the room is open for viewing. The room shall remain empty of people and locked at all times when a committee member is not present. Contest entries must be claimed by the entrant or his proxy at the time specified by the Cajon Division Contest Chairman. The Contest Committee shall not be responsible for returning any entry not claimed at the end of the announced time.

**Contest Rules Accessibility**. The latest revision of these Cajon Division Contest rules is to be maintained and accessible to anyone on the Cajon Division web site <---> and available for review in the contest room of a Cajon Division event.

**Cajon Contest Rules Revisions**. These Contest rules and revisions are subject to approval by the Cajon Division Board of Directors and changes are to be dated and noted below as they are instituted. Any desired contest rule changes must be completed, and Cajon Division members notified by notice in the Order Board and/or electronically of the changes at least 60 days prior to a Cajon Division contest.

#### **Cajon Division Contest Rules Revision History**

**Revision** - 1/5/2024, Butts, Morse, Allee. Original Draft. Revision - 2/10/2025, Allee

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# Model Entry Form

NMRA Form 901

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ONTEST EVENTS			
ODEL CONTEST	PHOTO CONTEST	PEOPLE'S CHOIC	
Judged)	(Judged) Model, B&W Print	(Popular vote - Dire	Arts & Crafts
Scratch Built	Model, Color Print	Model Generation	General
Kit Built	Prototype, B&W Print	Locomotive*	Needlework
Category	Prototype, Color Print	Rolling Stock*	Railroadiana
Steam Locomotive	Working on the Railroad Print	Caboose	
Diesel & Other Loco	Panorama Print	Structure	Photo (B&W or Color) Model Print
Passenger Car			Prototype Print
Freight Car	RAILROAD PASS CONTEST	Display	
Caboose	(Judged)	Special Award Cat	tegories
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NMER	<b>PSR Version Form 902</b>
	NMRA NATIONAL CONTEST JUDGING FORM       Entry No.         NMRA Form #902 Rev. E, 6/16/11       (PSR 12/20/2020)         Please print.       Please print.
Model Basis - Scratch Buil Common Common Mod. Common Scratch Buil	CTION (Maximum 40 points)       (*May qualify for AP scratch built)       Points Awarded       Col Row Score         - Select the description that best applies to your model       Image: Col Row Score       Image: Col Row Score       Image: Col Row Score         t (Complete) *- SB struc.; comm. details (>90%)       Image: Col Row Score       Image: Col Row Score       Image: Col Row Score         t (Partial) - SB struc.; comm. details (<90%)
Construction Drew own p Used proto/ Used kit pla	Techniques – Select all methods & materials that apply to your model         lans       □ Followed construc. article       □ Cut & fit wood       □ Soldered metal         comm. plans       □ Cut & fit metal       □ Cut & fit cardstock       □ Made patterns
	eximum 20 points) Points Awarded Cet Row Secre lexity, difficulty, refinement & quantity of detail parts added. Identify all commercial parts.
	TY (Maximum 25 points) Points Awarded Col Row Score type design. Include prototype documentation (beyond what may have been supplied in kit).
	ETTERING (Maximum 25 points) Points Awarded Col Row Score
Non-Weathe	ered - Describe methods & materials
5. SCRATCH	BUILT (Maximum 15 points) -  Kit Built Classification Points Awarded Row Searce ratch built; note special refinements
List all parts sc	

# **Pacific Southwest Express**



# **PSR 2025** Convention

# PSR 2025 Convention September 3 thru 6, 2025 Hilton Irvine – John Wayne Airport www.pacificswexpress.org

The Pacific Southwest Express planning is well under way and the convention will have something for everyone.

Do you like to see home model railroads to learn how the owner has accomplished something that you like? Do you like to learn new ideas from the home model railroad owners? If yes, we will have numerous home model railroads to visit and learn directly from the owner. Many of the home model railroads will be self-drive, (you can team up with a friend) and one guided tour of home model railroads. We will have several modular railroads set up at the convention for viewing and learning something new.

Do you like Operating Sessions? We have four home model railroads committed to run operating sessions and one modular club that will run operating sessions at the Convention Center.

The Pacific Southwest Express will offer several opportunities to acquire something new for your model railroad. Several vendors are planning to set up at the convention which will provide the opportunity to purchase the latest in model railroading. Of course, we will have the Hobo Auction and Swap Meet to allow you to decide which items you cannot live without. Another new feature will be a Silent Auction which will allow attendees to decide how much they would like to pay to add something new to their collection.

Clinics are always a big hit among attendees. Our clinics will provide historical information, knowledge on building all phases of a model railroad, and prototype information. We are planning for over 80 clinics presented by modelers, historians, manufacturers and MMRs with the most popular being presented twice. Stephen Priest will present a clinic on the restoration of SF 5704, an SD45-2, to the 1976 paint scheme. He will also discuss the process for moving a new model from an idea through planning, production and finally to distribution. We will all learn the importance of the Pre-Order portion of the process. In total, 294 requests for a clinic have been sent to previous presenters. I am sure you will find some clinics that will be of interest to you.

If you like Prototype Tours, we have something for you. The Southern California Railway Museum has the West's largest collection of railway locomotives, passenger cars, street cars, and interurban electric cars. The tour will include SF 5704, which was refurbished to the 1976 paint scheme. If you always wanted to drive a diesel engine, this tour will provide the opportunity.

(continued)



# **Pacific Southwest Express**

# PSR 2025 Convention (cont.)

The Los Angeles Union Station is the main railway station in Los Angeles and the largest railroad passenger terminal in the Western United States. This is a behind the scenes tour that includes the historic ticket counter and the original Fred Harvey Restaurant. Los Angeles Union Station is included on the National Register of Historical Places.

Celebration of Models is always my favorite portion of our conventions. We will include all the "normal" categories for viewing and evaluation. In addition, there will be a special contest for a one square foot model. The model must be no larger than one foot square and not over two feet high. The model must include track and/or a freight car. Photographs and Arts and Crafts will also be included in the model contest.

We will end the convention with an Awards Banquet and our Keynote Speaker, Cinthia Priest, Senior Editor NMRA Magazine. Since 2025 is the 90the Anniversary of the NMRA, I am sure Cinthia will include some of the key events in the development of the NMRA. She may also hit the highlights of her Destination MMR articles.

It is time to reunite with model railroad friends and associates. We will include plenty of general interest activities for spouses. Come and join us for an interesting, knowledgeable and fun four days at the Pacific Southwest Express convention September 3 through 6, 2025 at the Hilton Irvine. Register at <u>www.pacificswexpress.org</u>.

Harold Helland, MMR Chairman, Pacific Southwest Express

# Register Now for the Convention and Reserve a Hotel Room

www.pacificswexpress.org

# **Pacific Southwest Express Convention**

# **Calls for Clinics**

We are looking for individuals to present clinics at the PSR 2025 Pacific Southwest Express Convention September 3-6, 2025, at the Irvine Hilton which is across the street from John Wayne Airport. If you are interested in showing others your model railroad knowledge we want you. Suggested topic areas are:

3D Printing, Laser Cutting and Other Computer Modeling Methods Achievement Programs and Standards Setting DCC, LCC, Wiring & Other Electronics Layout Design and Construction Layout Operations Modeling Techniques and Ideas Prototype Railroads History Any Other Areas of Interest

THWESTERS

If you are interested in presenting a clinic at the PSR 2025 Pacific Southwest Express Convention, we request that you complete the online form, for each clinic proposal, as soon as possible. You can find the form using the link at >

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdEkTYiInT677hBO3XrZXqtWYvCl8wqyRU\_Q7T9K6RUEJDEfw/ viewform?usp=sharing

If you have any questions or problems, please contact us at pacificswexpress@gmail.com



# **Pennsylvania Trolley Museum** Kurt Matthews, Publications/Web Chair



I visited the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum in May 2024. It was originally called the Arden Trolley Museum, but has seen substantial growth in size and equipment in recent years resulting in a name change. It is located southwest of Pittsburgh, PA in the town of Washington, PA (pronounced "Little Woorshington" in the local vernacular as opposed to "Big" Washington DC). The museum contains primarily trolleys and related maintenance equipment from Pennsylvania and Ohio. In the early 1900s, western Pennsylvania was laced with trolley lines to serve not only the working mill employees around Pittsburgh, but also included lines through the coal and coke region of Fayette and Westmoreland counties. The area contained many mines and related beehive coke ovens that processed the raw coal into coke for the steel making process. The coke was then shipped to the steel mills in Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh and its surrounding county, Allegheny, was served by Pittsburgh Railways whereas Fayette and Westmoreland counties were served by West Penn Railways. Prior to the local folks owning autos, this was the primary transportation between all the small mine towns (called patches) and centers of shopping and entertainment. Most of these lines disappeared in the 1950s, although the current T Light Rail Transit line in the Pittsburgh South Hills is a descendant of the original Pittsburgh Railways. Many books have been published on these lines and Morning Sun Books had published a number of their Color Guides for each.

The museum is located along an active rail branch of the Pittsburgh and Ohio Central Railroad. This line is a direct descendant of the Pennsylvania Railroad Chartiers Branch which ran from Little Washington to Pittsburgh. It was active into Penn Central and Conrail until being sold to short line operators. In my research I found the following link to an S-scale model railroad layout site that not only gives the history of that line, but also talks about the layout owner's modeling progress. It is found here: <a href="https://www.pmrr.org/index.php">https://www.pmrr.org/</a> index.php

Pittsburgh Railways did operate interurbans from Washington, PA to Pittsburgh along a similar route. In the past year, the museum opened a brand new visitor center where you can board trolleys for rides. Information can be found here: <u>https://pa-trolley.org/</u>

If you are in the western Pennsylvania, West Virginia or southeast Ohio areas, it is worth a visit. All photos take within were by me and can be used without restriction. I have included photos on the following pages.



Pittsburgh Railways Car 4398 Built 1917



# Pennsylvania Trolley Museum



Rio De Janeiro Car 1758 Built 1911



#### Monongahela Railroad Caboose 73 Built 1949



Pennsylvania Trolley Museum



Pittsburgh Railways PCC Car 1711 Built 1949



Pittsburgh Railways Maintenance Car M283 Built 1929



PSR 2025 Convention Pacific Southwest Express September 3 thru 6, 2025 Hilton Irvine – John Wayne Airport

# www.pacificswexpress.org

# Welcome Reception

**Reunite with Friends** 

# Model Railroads

Modular Railroads Home Model Railroads Operating Sessions John Allen Timesaver

# Add to Your Model Railroad

Swap Meet Silent Auction Hobo Auction

# Celebration of Models

Display Evaluation One Square Foot Model

# General Interest

Activities for All

# **Prototype Railroads**

So Cal Railway Museum Los Angeles Union Station

# Clinics

Educational Hand On

# Awards Banquet

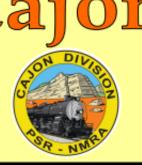
Delicious Dinner Keynote Speaker Cinthia Priest Editor NMRA Magazine Awards

# Register Now for the Convention and Reserve a Hotel Room www.pacificswexpress.org



**Cajon Spring Meet Flyer** 

Saturday April 26, 2025



Division- NMRA Spring – 2025

8:30 AM-4:30 PM

# SAVE THE DATE!

Clinics Swap Meet Hobo Auction Modelers - Show & Tell Celebration of Model Railroading General Membership Meeting Awards Ceremony

#### TARIFF

#### **Event Registration**

- NMRA Member: \$10.00
- Non-Members: \$15.00
- 18 and Under Free <u>with Parent/Guardian Only</u>

#### Pizza and soft-drink lunch provided

Swap Meet Space:

- Free for NMRA Members
- Others: \$5.00 / 6' space
- Bring your own tables, chairs, shade

MODELS: Bring a model for contest, AP judging or Show & Tell and get one free Hobo Auction ticket sheet! Messiah Lutheran Church Courtyard 6625 Dale St, Buena Park

> Near the 5 and 91 Free parking



# WELCOME to the 90th NMRA National Model Railroad Convention, STATION No. VI

#### July 14-19, 2025 – Novi, Michigan

#### 60 Layouts to Visit





#### Clinics and Workshops





#### Suburban Hotel w/Free Parking

#### REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

The convention is being hosted by the NORTH CENTRAL REGION of the NMRA. Our goal is for <u>A Convention Like No Other</u>. We are planning a great week of model and prototype railroading, just for YOU!

This convention is open to ALL model railroaders! You do not have to be an NMRA member to attend!

Come and join us for the MAXIMUM model railroad FUN!

#### LOCATION

Convention HQ is the Sheraton Hotel 21111 Haggerty Road, Novi, MI 48375

See all the accommodation options on our Location Page

#### EVENT HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- <u>Suburban location HQ Hotel</u> with FREE parking!
- 50+ restaurants within 15 minutes of HQ Hotel
- Operating sessions available
- NMRA model contest and model showcase
- Banquet Dinner with guest speaker on Saturday evening
- 20+ <u>Clinics</u> per day Tuesday Saturday
- <u>Modeling With The Masters</u><sup>®</sup> clinics
- 60+ <u>home/club layouts</u> 200 3000 sq ft to visit
- Prototype tours available
- Model Showcase display room with popular vote awards
- Yard Sale of new/used model railroad equipment
- Friday night <u>Pizza Party</u> with choice of soda, beer or wine.
- Event shirts available pre-order only
- EVERYONE welcome to attend!
- Unprecedented One LOW cost admission!
- Admission price includes ALL layout visits/clinics
- National Train Show Saturday Sunday

Don't miss out on the latest updates leading up to the 2025 NMRA Convention! <u>Subscribe</u> now to join our community of industry enthusiasts, thought leaders, and passionate learners.









Model Showcase Room







# https://www.nmra2025.com/

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# **Grouper NMRA Membership**

# **Dues Benefit**



# This is healthcare?

Your passion for model railroad is healthcare. **Really.** 

Research shows that participating in groups like the **National Model Railroad Association** improves our mental, physical, and social health. It's called "Social Fitness," and it's the perfect replica of your favorite track.



# Get Paid for Having Fun MEMBERSHIP DUES? WE COVER 'EM FOR ELIGIBLE MEMBERS OVER 65!

Grouper works with Medicare Advantage and Medicare Supplement plans to cover membership dues, so you can focus on what you love to do. Don't worry about the membership cost - **it's on your health plan**.



To see if your plan covers the Grouper social fitness benefit, visit



hellogrouper.com/NMRA



Call (833) 519-1078 Email nmra@hellogrouper.com

Exclusive benefit for current NMRA members in the U.S. with an eligible Medicare Advantage or Medicare Supplement plan.



# Support Your Local Hobby Store

We like to support local hobby stores when we can. So, we have included a list of local shops for your use.



The NMRA has negotiated discounts from several companies that are listed in the *NMRA Magazine* and on the NMRA Website, including a company called Daylight Sales. If you order items from them or any other of the companies on the list, remember to ask for the NMRA Discount.

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#### Las Vegas Trainworld

Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 7:00 pm Friday - Saturday 10:00 am - 9:00 pm Sunday 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

<u>lasveqastrainworld.com</u> (702) 268-8276 9440 W. Sahara Ave., #150. Las Vegas, NV 89117



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