

November 2001

Volume 29, Issue 3

# The Order Board

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Say hello to the volunteers who stepped forward to help steer the Cajon Division! Under the leadership of Director Jan Wescott, this Cajon Division Team has made it their mission to focus on camaraderie and education. They eagerly await the opportunity to meet Cajon Division members to offer their help and hospitality.

## New Cajon Division Team Ready to Roll!



L to R, front: Don Ford, Lynn Austin, Jane Jacobs, and Bill Jacobs. L to R, back: Tom Marshall, Jim Kociemski, Bill Graebel, Richard Altman, Martin Judd, Charles Nauman, Robert Wescott, and John Taranto. Not Pictured: Tim Roberts and out of Las Vegas area Section Foremen.

Chief Clerk	Jane Jacobs
Paymaster	Chuck Nauman
Membership Chair	Tim Roberts
Contest/AP	
Order Board Editor	Bill Jacobs
Member Aid	Lynn Austin
Education	Jim Kociemski
Division Greeter	Don Ford

Special Projects	Tom Marshall
Publicity	
Las Vegas Section Foreman	
Orange County Section Foreman	
High Desert Section Foreman	
Barstow Section Foreman	Ron Tucker
Riverside Section Foreman	

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### ORDER BOARD 2002 Submission Deadlines

February 15 May 24 August 16 November 15

**Advertising Rates** 

\$20.00 per issue \$75.00 per year for business cards

#### FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

A new group of ideas is emerging in our Division. Some of them deal with the Order Board. I promised when I took this job a year ago that we would be open to fresh thinking and constant improvement. That's still our goal. One of the bigger things is getting this publication online. This issue will hopefully be the first. I'm working with Dorr Altizer, the PSR Dispatch editor, to make this happen. The way to access it will be at www.trainnet.org, then click on Books & Photos and scroll down. Try this in a couple of weeks to see if we're successful. Included in this issue is a survey. One of the questions asks if you'd be willing to accept the Order Board online instead of a paper copy. The idea is to save money. Each issue of this little tome costs about \$400.00, which would be a lot more if we didn't get a bunch of free labor and out-of-pocket expenses. This is a very significant part of the Division's budget. Don't worry if you don't have a computer or simply prefer receiving the mailed version. We'd still send it by mail to those who want. Other advantages of the online version is that it will be in color and it can have more pages. For this issue, for example, several articles were left over for next time. Think it over-and fill out the survey. Another thing is that we are going to accept advertising. Business card rates are nearby. We have some exciting new features coming up, including occasional tips from Lynn Austin. Those of you who would like to be an author-please feel free. Articles are appreciated. Contact me for format. Bill

Congratulations are due to the following members of the Cajon Division for entries at the Las Vegas Limited Conven-

tion:	
Lynn Austin	Structure
Jav Belzer	Freight Car
Brian Block	Structure
Ed Hall	Diesel Locomotive
John J King	Structure
James Kociemski	Structure
Janice Wescott	Module
Robert Wescott	Display

Two people entered the Photo Contest:

All except one, John J. King, who is from Twenty-nine Palms, California, are from the Las Vegas area. It did my heart good to see all of you Cajonites (a new word I invented) entering into the various contests. It shows that the interest is out there and that Model Railroading is still strong.

Robert D. Wescott, Cajon Division Contest/AP Chair

#### AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL CAJON MEMBERS

From Jan Wescott, Director E-mail: wescvagas@lvcm.com

Hello Everyone,

As your new Director, I have spent considerable time surveying, researching and analyzing ways to best steer this Division in the direction of what I feel the NMRA is all about--and that is camaraderie and education. To me, the NMRA is the vehicle that provides a network of members who share similar interests and we can and should use this network to provide more opportunities for members to get together and "train talk".

Two obstacles immediately became evident. One, the political climate of the organizational structure is overpowering and fun seems to take a back seat; and the second is the geographical size of the Division. Whoever setup the territorial boundaries for this Division certainly did not do us any favors. However, it is not my intent to waste energies solving what cannot be solved today. Therefore, rather than trying to cut through the mountain, I have etched a possible path to go around it.

The Superintendent's position has been vacant for almost two years. A recent "wee" survey of members revealed that no one is willing or is able to volunteer the time necessary to "adequately" provide service to all areas in this Division. What may work for more confined locales certainly does not seem to work for the Cajon Division. This is evident by its past 10-year history of Superintendents.

My answer is to move forward! "Let's get rolling!" Leave it be until a more feasible solution surfaces. To this end, I've created a committee of area coordinators that will be delegated not only to provide one Division Meet a year but also be given the tools and support to arrange several area member gatherings in their section. Although the gatherings will be open to anyone, the focus will be with their own section of members. The objective is to inject more fun and education into the Division. These coordinators will be called Section Foremen. I am hoping to set up a News Page on the web so that all Section Foremen can post their gatherings. Las Vegas is designated to be the pacesetter for this concept beginning in 2002.

My goals for this Division are many. For example, within the committee framework I want to revitalize a Division Greeting committee that will visit new members, present them with the Dispatch, Order Board and/or gift and answer any questions. Also, with the NMRA's creation of the Education Department, it is my hope to expand this area to encompass a broader scope. Finally, I'm looking to have the Member's Aid position play a more active role within the Division. Too often, members do not realize he is there to help them. We'll begin by having a "tips" column for exposure to our Member Aid Chairman.

Some projects are currently in the works. A big one day event in conjunction with an Annual Cajon General Membership meeting is being planned under the auspices of Ron Tucker in Barstow for next November. Barstow was selected as it equates to approximately the same time and distance for all members. Also, our Editor will be working to get our Order Board on line and our Contest Chair will be hosting a special Diorama contest to be judged at the Annual Membership meeting next year with some great prizes.

In addition, I am putting out a survey in this issue to get to know all of you better and to determine what your interests are. As an incentive for completing the survey and mailing it back to me prior to the deadline date, you will receive a beautiful Cajon Division Pin with the logo in color.

As this issue goes to press, I feel encouraged by the positive response received from the volunteers who agreed to be on the committee and want to help get the ball rolling. I still have some missing pieces and if anyone wants to get involved and help me, please let me know. There are no "cliques" here. We are all strangers until we meet and talk to each other. We all want to share the joys of our hobby. Together we can make it happen!

The holidays are just around the corner and in closing I want to wish all of you Happy Holidays and look forward to meeting everyone soon. Happy Modeling!

#### CONTEST CORNER

Robert D. Wescott, Cajon Division Contest/AP Chair

Well, now that we are in the planning stages for a new contest, this is what I'm thinking of for the First Cajon Division Annual Membership Meeting to be held in the fall of 2002. More information will be published on that as it is firmed up by the powers that be.

The good news is that you will have almost a full year to complete your projects before having to display it at the Annual Membership Meeting. This is what I borrowed (copied, stole) from an old issue of the Bulletin:

Cajon Division First Annual Diorama Contest Rules:

- 1. All dioramas must be 1' x 2' with no part of the display extending outside these measurements. They may be as tall (vertical elevation above or below level) as the modeler wishes to make them. If a backdrop is used it must fit within these measurements.
- 2. Each diorama must be completely self contained. Dioramas may be built to be displayed together however no pieces may be used on more than one diorama. For example: Two dioramas are built, each representing two halves of a gorge with the intent being to feature a large trestle spanning the gorge. You are not allowed to set up the two dioramas next to one another and then set the trestle in between them. If you wanted to model this scene then half of the trestle would need to be modeled on EACH diorama so that when they are next to one another it appears to be one large trestle yet the dioramas are actually self contained.
- 3. The diorama can be done in any scale and it must contain at least four different items from the list of features provided below (meaning your diorama could contain A, C, F, and K and be OK. However, 4 trees (B) only count as one item from the list):

#### Features:

A. Track E. Rolling Stock I. Trestle M. Rocks
B. Trees F. Water J. Snow M. Sound
C. Building/structure G. Figure – Person K. Figure – Animal O. Animation
D. Lights H. Vehicle L. Vehicle

- 4. Somewhere on the diorama at least one reference must be made to railroading. This could be abandoned track, a wrecked train car, a railroad sign or structure. Even something like a tavern called "The Whistle Stop" would work because it is a reference to railroading. Use your imagination.
- 5. During the Annual Membership Meeting, all participants agree to bring their dioramas to be displayed.
- There will be a basic popular vote to choose the Best of Show, Funniest, and the Most Creative Use of Space under each category.

Well, there you have it. To me, it sounds like fun and I'll be starting mine in the near future. There will be prizes that will be determined as we near meeting time. I don't know what they will be yet, but I have lots of time to figure them out. These displays will not be for the AP program. If you have structures or rolling stock included that you wish to be judged for the AP program, that's O.K. This can be arranged at the meeting (don't forget the paperwork).

If it sounds like a fun thing for you, let me know and I'll keep a list of all who wish to enter and follow the above rules.

This will be the last time you hear from me until sometime next year, so Happy Holidays to all!

## Congratulations Ron and Dee Tucker



Cajon Division Members of the Year



## MALFUNCTION JUNCTION HOBBIES

4102 MELODY LANE 5455 PLAINVIEW AVE. LAS VEGAS NEV. 89109 or LAS VEGAS NEV, 89122 PHONE / FAX 702-451-9761 CELL 702-285-6288



Cajon Division Members participate at GATS.

Don Ford doing what he does best!



## LOST AND FOUND DEPARTMENT

A box of computer-type stuff with a mailing label to Steve Chasten at a Florida address ended up being left at the convention with the Orange County Modulars gear. If you are, or know, Steve, contact Jan at <a href="west-vegas@lvcm.com">west-vegas@lvcm.com</a> or (702) 566-0856

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#### OFFICER ON THE TRAIN

Once in a while a rare opportunity comes by that you just cannot pass up, this was the case last week here in Las Vegas. My friend, a Union Pacific engineer, called to inform me that if I wanted to ride in a dome car I could on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October. I said "if I wanted, OF COURSE I WILL!"

The day started early, the train was scheduled to leave about 6am so we all met in the UP office to sign release forms. As I walked to the train (two Union Pacific SD-70 engines and the Silver Lariat Budd dome) I saw the dome was sandwiched between



Budd Dome Car Photo: Ed Hall

come on, not when the gates drop. One truck with two long bulk trailers became fully aware of that law when he drove the truck into the crossing as the crossing gates dropped. The arms dropped between the two trailers trapping the truck. The driver then tried to move and you can guess the result, yes he broke the crossing arms off. There were two motorcycle officers attending the situation, we left the area and "educated" more people about the dangers of not obeying the law.

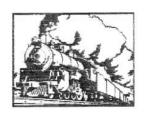
After all that fun we (Bob Jones and I) were treated to a cab ride in the rear SD70 that was trailing the train. We traveled to Sloan and checked out a crossing there. After a short time the engineer came to our engine for the return trip. Some of the people in the cab went to the dome for the return trip but Bob and I stayed. We were not asked to leave and of course did not volunteer either, we talked to the conductor and enjoyed the ride. What a great day!

Ed Hall POM the two engines, it is a beautiful car. All polished stainless steel with a very slight tint in the window glass. The car was a Western Pacific dome coach that was converted to a dome diner. We boarded the car and met Mr. Alvin Bishop, the Vice President of California Zephyr Railcar Charters. Al gave us a complete history of the car's heritage and plans for the future. Talking to Al was like talking to an old friend, he was very happy to share his knowledge with people that were eager to learn. He also makes great coffee.

We started out the day by going eastbound to Craig Rd., the train had a police officer on the lead engine and 4 motorcycle officers waiting on the west side of the crossing and three on the east. As we got closer to the grade crossing the train slowed, the crossing lights came on and after the programmed time delay the arms lowered. The traffic was heavy due to the early morning travel to work and a few people did not pay attention to the signals. I noticed the motor officers went for the last ones through the signals. After the train activated the signals it would stop and wait for them to time-out (the lights go off and the arms go up), then the train would proceed, inching forward to activate the signals again. This was repeated over and over all day, catching people that were either not paying attention or ignorant of the fact that motorists must stop when the lights



Truck at crossing Photo: Ed Hall



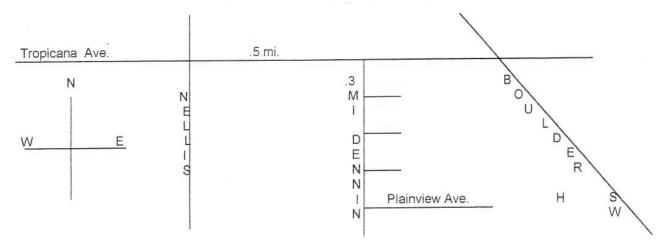
## MODEL RAILROAD SWAP MEET

NOVEMBER 25<sup>th</sup> 9 am – 4 pm at the

Clover Valley Railroad Yard
5455 Plainview Ave. Las Vegas hosted by Lynn Austin
(702) 451-9761

Free admission - open to the public
No charge to sellers
Bring your own tables
Set up time 8 am
Modular groups invited!

"how to" sessions and demonstrations
10:30 am and 1:30 pm
questions about your railroad?
bring your projects for
"ask, show and tell"
BBQ hamburgers and refreshments available!



#### Membership Application

Pacific Southwest Region - National Model Railroad Association

	Date		
Name			
Address			
City	State	ZIP	
Telephone ( )	Occupation		
Primary Scale Email		Date of Birth	
New [ ]Renewal [ ] PSR #	NMRA #		Exp. Date
Class of Membership Regular Youth (Under 20 Years) Affiliate (No Bulletin or Local Publications) Family	NMRA \$45.00 [ ] \$30.00 [ ] \$23.00 [ ] \$ 9.00 [ ]	PSR * \$7.00 [ ] \$2.00 [ ] \$4.00 [ ] \$1.00 [ ]	<b>BOTH</b> \$52.00 [ ] \$32.00 [ ] \$27.00 [ ] \$10.00 [ ]

Send this application and your check (made payable to "Pacific Southwest Region, NMRA" to: PSR—NMRA, Dottie Finch, 8808 N. 37th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ, 85051-3707. For information on NMRA or PSR (or both) Life or Affiliate Life Membership, contact Dottie Finch at gramdottie@aol.com or (602) 973-4231.

Referred By: The Order Board

The Order Board 4813 Plata Del Sol Drive Las Vegas, NV 89121

Return Service Requested



<sup>\*</sup> YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE NMRA TO BE A PSR MEMBER.