

December 2003

Volume 31, Issue 4

The Order Board

Inside this issue:

From the Editor's Desk	2
Director's News Cap- sules	4
Hemet Meet	5
RDC	6
Christmas Train Show	7
Historian's Corner	10



Bill Graebal "auctioneering" off another great "White Elephant" Prize at Barstow. Dr. Graebal was recently elected a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, by the Board of Governors of ASME, for contributions to the practice of mechanical engineering through a career of research and teaching. This honor was presented to Bill on December 2, 2003. Congratulations! Photo: Bob Wescott

Barstow: The Equalizer

By Charles Nauman

We've said it before: what a fantastic place for a Cajon Division event. The Harvey House, the Western America Railroad Museum, the Barstow Depot, and proximity to megaprototype rail traffic funneling through the Barstow yard combine to make it a railroad enthusiast's paradise. Barstow's location midway between the eastern and western reaches of the Cajon Division make it ideal for attracting members who rarely see one another. And the con-



The Harvey House end of "Casa Desiertas," the Barstow Station. Photo: Dale Tripp

veniently located Ramada Inn pulls it all together as a base of operation for registration, clinics, the model contest and achievement program judging, awards, raffles and auctions, as well as a jumping–off spot for going out to dinner.

For the second year running, Ron and Dee Tucker were our on-site coordinators for the meet. Once again, they went out of their way to do a really great job. A great big "Thank You" is in order and is extended to Ron and Dee from all Division members. Not only did they take care of many of the arrangements for the event, but held an open house on Sunday with lots of refreshments and a tour of the impressive Bodie Southern in Ron's dedicated train building. Dee also made refreshments for participants on Saturday and Sunday mornings at the Ramada Inn.

The festivities began on Friday with set-up by the modular groups in the newly restored Harvey House. This year there were four modular groups: the Orange County Module



Railroaders (HO), the Orange County "N"gineers (N), the Free-Mo modular group from Arizona and California (HO), and the Southern Nevada N-Trackers (N). In addition, Lynn Austin's Sedona Pacific (On30) layout was in operation, and 8 year old Nicholas Webster hosted his layout running *(Continued on page 3)*

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Trainnet.org: www.trainnet.org

Division Website: www.cajondiv.org

From the Editor's Desk

At the Phoenix convention, Dorr Altizer, the PSR Dispatch Editor made a comment in his clinic, (and I'm paraphrasing here) "model railroading is my hobby, editing the Dispatch is not." Thanks to Dorr for eight years of the PSR Dispatch, now he can dust off those trains! Now, on to Barstow. We had at least 2 1/2 railfans sign up for our meet who just stay at the Ramada to watch trains on occasion. Obviously, one was a father and very young son. The other was a young man named Harvey Brown. He is, I believe, a real estate agent in Florida who had flown into SoCal with the intention of going to Las Vegas to see the Nellis air show on Sunday. He said he always stops at the Barstow Ramada Inn to watch trains. He found us. Dennis Ivison sent us Harvey's posting on a chat group. "They made me feel like family and I appreciated it." He stayed the whole weekend and had nothing but praise for the Cajon Division. He bought Bob Larson's book (Bob is kind of becoming our adopted "real engineer," you know.) So, Harvey, thanks for the kind words and welcome to Cajon hospitality!!

See ya on down the line, Bill

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Thomas the Tank Engine® trains. Model trains ran during show hours from 10 AM Saturday to 3 PM Sunday.



Clinics had a bigger presence in this year's event. On Friday evening our first guest clinician, Bob Larson, presented slides taken over the course of his career as a Western Pacific locomotive engineer. Nine clinicians from the Cajon Division made presentations on Saturday morning. Clinic topics ranged from scenery, to kits and kit bashing, to detailing locomotives. The "Anything but a Boxcar" popular vote contest and achievement program judging were also held on Saturday morning.

Nicolas Webster. Photo courtesy of Barstow Desert Dispatch.

On Saturday afternoon, the everpopular Chinese Auction reigned, awarding a total of 136 donated

items to lucky winners. Attendees really seem to get into this event and it is a big revenue source for the Division. After a break for supper, the day began to wind down with the award ceremony. This was followed by our second guest clinician, Chard Walker, who made an illustrated presentation on his work experiences on Cajon Pass during the period when SP put a line in over the pass. The evening wrapped up with show-and-tell presentations by Lynn Austin and Todd Scott.



Mark Carnighn won the raffle for the G-scale Mogul. The loco was donated by Lynn Austin and the raffle raised \$455 which will be used for the 2005 convention. Editor's note: Mark is with the Orange County "N"gineers-this will pull 4,000 N-scale boxcars on level track, 3,000 on a grade. Photo: Robert Wescott



Sunday morning was occupied by a membership meeting, including news of plans for the 2005 PSR convention to be hosted by the Cajon Division, the raffling off of a donated large-scale mogul, and a premium white elephant auction. Ron and Dee's open house and the ongoing train show at the Harvey House rounded out the final day. Overall we had a great time. Hopefully, we'll be able to meet in Barstow again next year. Don't miss it!

Left: Railfan Heaven. Photo: Chuck Nauman

Right: Members <u>flock</u> to Barstow. This is the membership meeting. Photo: Dale Tripp

For additional Barstow news and pictures, see RDC on page 6 and page 11.



Cajon Division Barstow Clinicians. Back, L to R, Bob Mitchell, Charles Nauman, Carl Heimberger, Jim Fuhrman, Dale Tripp. Front, Rich Fritz and Todd Scott. Photo: Robert Wescott



The Chinese Auction was a crowd favorite! There were 136 items including 2 brass passenger cars and 6 locomotives. Photo: Robert Wescott





DIRECTOR'S NEWS CAPSULES

By Jan Wescott, Cajon Division Director Email: wescvegas@cox.net Photos by Dale Tripp

BANNER YEAR FOR DIVISION IN 2003

It's December, the end of another year and all I can say is "wow," what a year it has been. The Division had a total of 14 events that included nine Meets, four promotional events, and involvement as a very active participant in the PSR Convention in Phoenix. Looking back over all the events this past year, taking into account what we accomplished, and adding in the fun and rewards it brought for both the members and the Division, it certainly can be said that 2003 was a banner year!

Super kudos to all members, in this now great Cajon Division, for your wonderful support and participation. I think you have re-defined the meaning of "model railroading <u>is</u> fun" and are the reason why we are now called a "great" organization. You made it happen!

Of course, my kudos cannot be complete without singing high praises for out Board Team for a superb job. It truly is my pleasure to be a part of this wonderful group. Hats off to all of you!

By the way, I did want to mention that our "Celebration" in Barstow was a big success. One member's comment really summarizes the general consensus. He said, "this event is so awesome-so much bang for our buck." Having the members enjoy the event and knowing they thought it was worthwhile is what is truly important to me.

And it's always nice to make enough money to fund our newsletter for another year and not have that worry. Drum roll, please...the net profit from Barstow was a whopping \$1900. From this, \$646 will be used as seed money to host the 2000 Cajon-sponsored PSR Convention and \$100 was donated to the Western America Railroad Museum. A full income and expense report for all nine events will be in our next Order Board.



On behalf of the entire Cajon Board Team we wish you "Happy Holidays! See you next year, because it's going to be super!

4H Takes Center Stage at Division Meet in Hemet

By Jan Wescott, Division Director - Photos by Robert Wescott

October 4th was meant to be a a "typical" Division meet in Hemetsome clinics and a white elephant auction in the morning and layout tours in the afternoon. Wally and Nina Clark poured their hearts into planning every detail. Along with Wally's Anza railroad buddies Don Clement, Paul Larson, and others, by 8 am everything was ready: signs on the doors; hot coffee; doughnuts; and tables and chairs.

Clint Adams began the Meet with a clinic on *"The Magic of Electricity in Model Railroading."* Dustin Renck and Mike Dunn (pictured left), two Anza 4H members were next. A bit nervous, they began describing how they chose model railroading as their 4H project, using a simple layout to demonstrate. It was an eye opener! The 4H organization is well known and is the largest youth organization in the world. However, there was not a person in the room that had ever associated 4H with model railroading. As their pres-



entation moved forward all eyes and ears were clearly focused on these two daring presenters. By Meet's end, both Dustin and Mike were feeling comfortable and fielded an array of questions admirably. They also made out like champs-hauling out armfuls of white elephant model railroad items.

As Division Director, I was thrilled with the whole sequence of events. This was our first Meet in an outlying area of California. The support for Wally's effort was amazing. Over 54 train folk filled the room and stragglers kept coming all morning long. Our sign-in sheet really does not reflect the actual number. I think even Wally was amazed!

I'm always excited to greet old friends like Bill Flinn from Santa Ana, Owen Miller from Big Bear Lake, and the guys from the Orange County Module Railroaders: Jim Fuhrman, Mike Sandstedt, Terry Howden, and David Arrendes. Of course, OCMR leader, our Orange County Foreman, Carl Heimberger, was there as were Cajon Board Team members Ron Tucker, Brian and Loretta Block, and Robert Wescott.

David Cox, LA Division Superintendent, Bob deMoss, LA Division Membership Chairman, his wife Cindy; and Bob Chaparro, PSR Layout Coordinator, all made the trek inland. What I was unprepared for were the number of faces I



didn't recognize. They came from everywhere: Winchester, Homeland, Anza, San Jacinto, Redlands, Murrieta Springs, Wildomar, Placenta, Riverside, and Hemet. It was wonderful to meet everyone.

The white elephant auction was a big success. We received bags of items and as usual, it brought laughter and bargains galore. As has become the norm at Cajon events, members in the audience were asked to play auctioneer. Bob Mitchell's donation of pine trees reaped a tidy sum and overall the auction made about \$150.

My personal thanks to all that came and supported this event. A very special thanks to Wally and Nina for a job well done.

Robert's D— Column

By Robert Wescott, Cajon Division Contest/AP Chair E-Mail: RDWesc@cox.net Robert's photo by Charles Nauman

Congratulations to the winners of the "Anything but a Boxcar" Contest which was held at our 2nd Annual get-together in Barstow. There were a surprising 10 entries, which is up from last year. The winners were:

First Prize – Lynn Austin Second Place – Duane Yoder Third Place – Joe Villaryo

Also, there were three entries in the Model Contest and surprisingly, two entries in the Arts and Crafts portion. Two of the models received enough points to qualify for AP Certificates. Bob Olds with his 2-8-0 Locomotive and Gary Thompson with his 'N' Scale Keen Kutter Tool Company.

Kathy Villeneuve, wife of our new Superintendent, entered two articles into the Arts & Crafts contest and received both 1st and 2nd place. Many complimented the two needlecraft entries as exquisite. Entries in this category were a first for me as Contest Chair and I hope it is the start of something new within the Division. We need more in this category (hint).

We were again blessed with four knowledgeable judges for our contest. They were Marty Judd, Ted Johnson and Todd Scott for the model portion and Kay Tonnessen for the Arts and Crafts. Many thanks to all of them for giving up the their time taken to help us out.

Okay, time to get your act together for a new popular vote contest for next year. This one may take a little research. The contest will be to model an "Order Board". Any type, any make. If you are in any doubt about what an order board is, look on the cover page of this Order Board to get an idea. This is NOT a semaphore. Same great cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

No matter how you look at it, we had another wonderful get-together this year in Barstow. If you were not able to make it for any reason, try to plan on being there next year. We keep getting bigger, better and having more fun. *Ed's note: Additional photos on pages 10 and 11*.

Pictured below is Lynn Austin's "Cajon Ice Service" "Anything but a Boxcar" Ist Place entry. Photo: Charles Nauman



Pictured above right and right, Kathy Villeneuve's 1st and 2nd place Arts & Crafts entries. Both photos: Robert Wescott.

Pictured below, Duane Yoder's "Doodle Car" 2nd place entry. Photo: Charles Nauman





Pictured below, Joe Villaryo's "Pacific Valley" 3rd place "Anything but a Boxcar" entry. Photo: Charles Nauman



At right, Bob Olds' Merit Award winning 2-8-0. Bob also received a Golden Spike Award for his home layout, judged in April. Photo: Charles Nauman



HUNDREDS ATTEND CHRISTMAS TRAIN AND CRAFT SHOW

By John Taranto, Publicity Chair Photos by Lou Grandieri, Southern Nevada Chapter, National Railway Historical Society

The Convention Center in Henderson, NV, provided the perfect setting for the 2nd Annual Christmas Train and Craft Show. Joining forces with the Cajon Division to sponsor the event were members of the Silver State Chapter of the Toy Train Operating Society. All of the fun and excitement was comfortably housed in one giant room of 7,500 square feet.

Valley model railroaders were treated to a huge display of operating layouts and vendors of every scale. Delighting the attendees with memories of Lionel and tinplate model railroading were layouts provided by Bill Arndt and Jon Georgi. Also on hand with layouts representing the other various scales of our hobby were Lynn Austin; On30, John King of Twenty Nine Palms and the Nevada Module Railroad Engineers; HO, and the Southern Nevada N-Trakers and Jan Wescott with N-Scale, respectfully.



Craft vendors, Betty Ranieri, Michelle Higham, and Nancy Wollum enjoy the event.

Folks who wanted to get started in model railroading, or just expand and improve their layouts had no problem finding bargains with row after row of vendors to choose from. Holiday shoppers looking for that extra "something special" to fill a stocking or place under the tree found a cornucopia of country home crafts and Indian gifts.

By achieving her main goal of uniting local train groups together for the promotion of our hobby to

the public, Jan Wescott has capped off another outstanding year for the Cajon Division with this event. And the public responded favorably with an attendance well surpassing that of last year. Attendees had such a wonderful time that many approached Event Co-



Vendors and buyers meet at the Henderson Train Show.



Santa meets and greets one of the younger attendees.

ordinator Jan and urged her to consider staging this event *twice* a year. So what's on tap for next year? How does a Spring Train and Craft Show sound?





SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Order Board is sent Free to all members in the Cajon Division. This newsletter is available to PSR Members outside of the Division for \$3 per year and to non-PSR members for \$5 per year. Make your check payable to "Cajon Division" and mail to Bill Jacobs, Editor, 4813 Plata del Sol Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89121.

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DIVISION INFORMATION

All members with Internet access are invited to visit our private Cajon Division website. View photos taken at recent events, purchase items from our Company Store, or obtain copies of event flyers. Our website is updated regularly.

Visit: www.cajondiv.org

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Answer to Historian Bob Faley's Question:

(Left to Right) William Carvin, David Cox, Hank Graham, R. H. Huebenthal, Wilmer Seaver, the ever dapper Robert Sherlock and Don Stewart, Robert Trombley, and Randy Wilson. In the background are LeRoy Thompson, A. P. Chairman. Missing from the picture are Allen Dunlap, Bruce Cheever, and John Determan.

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Historian's Corner

By Bob Faley, Division Historian

This month I am going to digress a bit from pure Division news to an item that might more aptly be published in the PSR Dispatch. However, it does contain news of some past Cajon members and might be of interest to some of our "old timers," so bear with me. The 2003 Convention is now history. But I want to take you back to the 1985 convention held in Pasadena at the Pasadena Hilton. It was the second PSR convention held by the new Region. Wil Seaver was Chairman for this event. At this point in time, a notable achievement occurred: twelve well known PSR members received a total of fourteen Certificates of Achievement during the awards banquet. This was the largest group, at the time, in the NMRA ever to receive as many certificates during a Regional convention. Ten of the certificates brought both National and Regional recognition for many years of dedicated service to others in the hobby. A picture of nine of the recipients is shown here. How many can you recognize? A special note: this was an era when suits and ties were the order of the day, in contrast to today's informal dress code! (Answer elsewhere in the Order Board.)





Above: "espeeboy," Ryan Martin caught capturing a "La Migra" roll-by at Wilcox with engineer/ dispatcher Chris Palmorez controlling the move. These guys are part of the very cool Free-Mo group. Photo: Ryan Harris

Below: Non-Rails, Non-Modelers, Non-Train gals, Loretta Block, Dee Tucker, and Jane Jacobs (L-R) receive Spikette Awards for their tireless efforts and dedication to ensure success at Cajon Division events. Photo: Robert Wescott





Above: Jerry Stephens, of Hemet, CA, created and donated the new Spikette Awards to the Cajon Division. Thanks, Jerry! Photo: Wally Clark



PSR 2005 CONVENTION LOGO UNVEILED IN BARSTOW

Circle your calendar! September 7–11, 2005

Radisson Resorts Knott's Berry Farm Buena Park, California

"CAJON COUNTRY" Camp Snoopy, Mrs. Knott's Chicken-Chicken, Here we come!

Using input from the Division Board Team, the selection of the Cajon sponsored PSR 2005 Convention logo, with its vibrant red tone color combinations, was unveiled in Barstow. Director Jan announced some preliminary plans to host a convention that will contain several variations from "norm" conventions and stated it would be an event that will place strong emphasis on laughter and camaraderie with fun activities for all attendees. Using Barstow as a prime example, she promised to do all she could to make this convention special for the members, one they'll surely remember. She also stressed the importance of needing the members' support in order to achieve success.

Everyone is being asked to help spread the word about the event. Convention souvenir logo buttons are now on sale (\$1 each) and will be available at every Division event throughout 2004. "Wear your button to all model railroading events, buy lots of buttons and pass them out to your friends." Over 200 convention souvenir buttons were sold in Barstow. Stay tuned. More convention news and details will be forthcoming. *P.S. From the logo, can you guess what our convention car will be?*



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