

RUNNING LITE

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**October 24
Cajon Fall Event
Buena Park, Ca**



From The Director

Richard Hock
Cajon Division Director



As I navigate the duties and responsibilities of Division Director, it has been put to me that I am the announcer, cheerleader for the division. Whereas I don't have any pom poms, I can put on my Ed McMahon or Don Pardo announcer voice and shout YIPPEE KI YAY! Roy Rogers? Hmmm. What actually comes to mind is Brue Willis in Die Hard with a couple of other censored words along with it.

The past six months has been about cancellations. I get to announce, YIPPEE KI YAY! The Fall Meet in Buena Park is moving forward as scheduled. I am most certain that the pandemic has produced a lot of great model building. I have three projects started and none that are complete. However, bring yours to the meet! Either for the contest room or for the Show and Tell session.

Pandemic cleaning out of the hobby room? Bring those extra pieces of rolling stock and locomotives you don't run anymore. How about those unbuilt kits that never made it on the layout? Bring all that stuff to the swap meet. Let's do some horse trading.

Pandemic pent-up hobby hunting? Then, you do not want to miss the Hobo Auction. I can't tell you enough about some of those unexpected gems I find on the auction tables. Just looking forward to coming together under the tents in Buena Park on the 24th of this month.

YIPPEE KI YAY! Speaking of which, the 2021 PSR Convention is coming' around the bend. The convention website is up and running! Check it out! Your Cajon Division is hosting the Orange Blossom Special. The website can be found at <http://www.psrconvention.org/OrangeBlossomSpecial2021/index.php> Another reason not to miss the Fall Meet in Buena Park, special convention discount rate of \$105.00 has been extended through that event. Get registered there. Take advantage of the great pricing and order your convention shirt, convention car and pins while you are at it.

On the convention site, take a look at the convention schedule. No longer any time conflicts with clinics, layout tours, ops sessions or extra fare outings! The Hilton is a great venue, right across from the Orange County / John Wayne Airport. I'm registered! How about you? Grab your discount price.

YIPPEE KI YAY! Good news to report for a change. I can only hope that this re-opening trend continues. I for one, am going to take advantage of those opportunities toward normalcy, with prudent pandemic precautions, of course.

See you at Buena Park.

Richard Hock, Cajon Director

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“ From the Brass Hat “

by Joel Morse Superintendent



The word “volunteer” is a noun, which, according to the Oxford Dictionary, means “a person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task”. And this definition covers every one of the Cajon members who serve on the Cajon Division Board of Directors, as well as throughout the NMRA. The Cajon Division could not operate without lots and lots of volunteers. Why do we do it? I’ll tell you why volunteering to this organization is worth my valuable time (and yours), in the hopes of convincing you to become more involved in YOUR Cajon Division. The Cajon Division needs your help to improve the experience of all our members!

I’m on both the Cajon Board as Superintendent and serve as the PCR Treasurer, and believe me, I don’t volunteer my time because I have nothing else to do. I make the time to take a leadership role in this organization because I firmly believe that the organization is important to our continued ability to enjoy this terrific hobby. I don’t tell you this because I want your thanks, I tell you because I need your help as a volunteer and your active participation with the Cajon Division. Organizations don’t run themselves; they need members who are willing to step up and contribute their time and energy for the benefit of the rest of the membership. If you attend the Division Events or enter a contest or are working on your Merit Awards towards your MMR, thank the volunteers who made it possible. Isn’t it time you got off the sidelines and pitched in?

But you don’t need to take a leadership role, I know that’s not for everyone (although we do have the need for two volunteers on the Board of Directors and would love to talk about that with you). However, we all benefit when each of us actively participates and engages with our fellow members! This means attending the Division Events and Regional Conventions, make them a priority, and volunteer to help out at these events – give a clinic, take tickets, set up rooms – all kinds of help is needed. And of course, we need you to participate in the events!

In addition to the benefits that accrue to the organization, volunteering is good for the volunteer as well! Volunteering increases self-confidence and doing for others provides a natural sense of accomplishment, pride and identity. In addition, volunteering helps you explore your interests; strengthen past skills, develop new skills, learn something new, perhaps become the teacher you never knew you were and broaden your horizons by interacting with other members.

Today, your Board of Directors needs two volunteers to step into leadership roles in the organization – one as Chief Clerk, the other as Media Manager. According to the Cajon Division By-Laws, the Chief Clerk “shall act as Secretary of the Cajon Division and keep accurate record of all Meetings of Members and of the Executive Advisory Committee.” The Media Manager is described elsewhere in the OB Lite.

Remember what I wrote in my first column as Superintendent: “You get out of an organization what you put into it.” And today I’ll add this anonymous quote: “Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.” Please STAND UP and be counted!

We’ll see you in Buena Park in a few weeks!

The Editor's Column

by Morrie Fleishman
Editor: Cajon Division



Welcome to the October issue of **Running-Lite** the monthly newsletter for the Cajon Division during this current Pandemic situation. The purpose of **Running-Lite** is to keep members updated with modeling opportunities available such as the many Virtual (On-Line) events that have been popping up everywhere. Please send me an email and pictures showing what you are working on and letting us know what on-line events you are aware of so that we could spread the word to others.

Thanks. Morrie Fleishman mefleishman@cox.net

Reminder: Virtual Meetings via Zoom, Skype, etc.

While new to some, IT types have been using products like webex and gotomeeting to do training to remote sites for many years. The NMRA now has a new activity called the NMRA-X. Those involved have created a Week long Virtual Model Railroad Convention in July and, more recently, a one day convention in September. These events include presentations on a variety of topics and are available for viewing after the event. Go to the NMRA website and enter NMRA-X in the white (search) box in the upper right of the page.

The Operations Special Interest Group, OPSIG, held their annual meeting as a virtual meeting on Sunday, July 12 and schedules 2 hour presentations every other Sunday. The schedule for October is the 11th and the 25th. For times and other information see the OPSIG website opsig.org.

There are other virtual events taking place including periodic broadcasts from the San Diego Division. For more information, go to the San Diego Division website; sandiegodivision.org and go to the youtube channel link to see previous virtual events. See additional information under Meets/Events.

Common elements of all of these meetings are that attendees are provided with the login information, the time and as well as reservation information as there may be limits on the number that can join in. Often the meetings have been recorded and are available on youtube.

While it doesn't look like we will have train shows and big events for the remainder of the year, Cajon is having a one day, limited activity event on October 24 in Buena Park. See the flyer included on page 4.

Positions Available: **Social Media Director:** Do you enjoy spending time on Facebook, keeping in touch with your friends in model railroading? Well, the Cajon Division is in need of a member to run our social media efforts and you might just be the person we need! This role would entail keeping our Facebook page and our Facebook group up-to-date, reaching out to our membership via social media, and helping promote our events. In the future, it might also extend to Twitter or a YouTube channel, but for now, we're focused on Facebook. If you're interested in helping your division out in this role, please contact Richard Hock at director@cajondivision.org or Joel Morse at superintendent@cajondivision.org

Positions Available: **Chief Clerk:** Records and presents the minutes of the Annual or Special General Membership meetings, prepares and mails to the membership a written notice and agenda of Annual or Special General Membership meetings as required, and is responsible for maintaining the office files of the Cajon Division in an orderly fashion. If you're interested in helping your division out in this role, please contact Richard Hock at director@cajondivision.org or Joel Morse at superintendent@cajondivision.org

Saturday
October 24th



Cajon

Division- NMRA
Fall-2020

7:00 AM

COVID SENSITIVE MEET

**Activities will be outside under cover or in large
rooms with social distancing!**

*******Masks and Social Distancing Required*******

Schedule

Registration Opens: 7am

Swap Meet Setup: 7am

Contest Room Open: 7:15am to 8:30am

Swap Meet: 8am to 10 am

General Membership Meeting and Awards Ceremony: 10:15am

Modelers - Show & Tell: 11am to Noon

Hobo Auction: Noon to 1:00pm

TARIFF

Event Registration

NMRA Member: \$10.00

Non-Members/Guest: \$15.00

18 and Under with Adult: FREE

Registration Tariff includes:

1 Door Prize Raffle Ticket: Four Great Prizes

1 6-foot Swap Meet Table Allowed

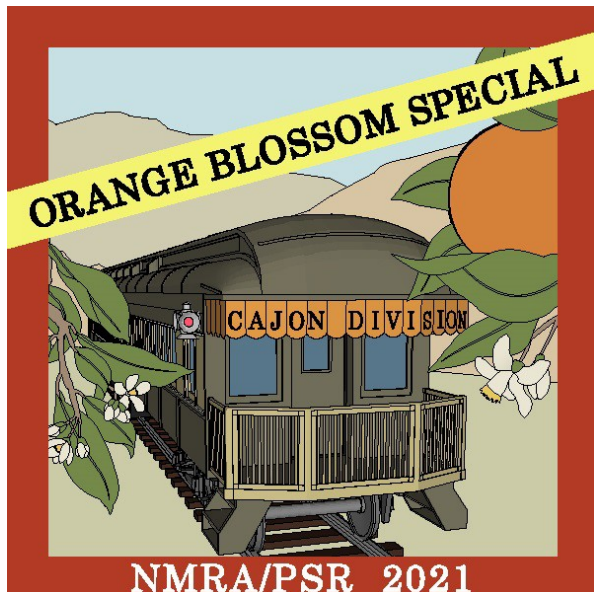
**Bring your own table, chair, pop-up
(Addition Tables \$5 each)**

Water, Soda, Snacks included

**MODELS: Bring a model for contest, AP judging or
Show & Tell and receive 1 (one) sheet of Hobo Auc-
tion Tickets!**

**Messiah Lutheran Church
Parking Lot and Courtyard
6625 Dale St, Buena Park**

**Near the 5 and 91
Free parking**



National Model Railroad Association

Pacific Southwest Region

2021

“Orange Blossom Special”

MODEL RAILROAD CONVENTION

September 8 – 11, 2021

Hilton Irvine/Orange County Airport Hotel

Irvine, Ca



- ❖ **Railroad Modeling Clinics**
- ❖ **Private Layout Tours & Ops Sessions**
- ❖ **Prototype Tours**
- ❖ **Hobo Breakfast**
- ❖ **Non-Rail Activities & Tours**
- ❖ **Model Railroad Railroadiana Swap Meet**
- ❖ **Railroad Model Contest Room**
- ❖ **Model Railroad Auction**
- ❖ **Welcome Reception**
- ❖ **Awards Banquet**

Hotel Reservations: You can now reserve your room on-line by going to the convention website and clicking on the ‘Hotel’ link. The convention rate rooms at the Hilton are guaranteed to fill up, and you don’t want to miss out on the discount, or worse, be trying to find a last-minute hotel deal. Hilton Reservations: 949-833-9999 – Group Name: 2021 PSR Convention / Group Code: PSRC

Convention Tours: Convention staff is working on securing both rail and non-rail tours. Look for updates at www.psrconvention.org

Convention Goodies: Don’t forget to check out the Company Store, where you will find shirts, pins, patches, as well as our special run model railroad cars.

Registration: The Convention Committee has extended the early discount convention rate of \$105 until October 24, 2020. Starting October 25, 2020, the full fare rate of \$125 will apply. See the convention website for complete registration and convention details.

www.PSRConvention.org



Important updates for the Orange Blossom Special 2021 Pacific Southwest Regional Convention

Great news. The 2021 PSR Convention Committee has continued the discount rate of \$105 for the 2021 PSR Convention until October 24, 2020. After that date, the cost will increase to \$125 so if you want to take advantage of the discount and save \$20 you should register now. You can register on line at our website psrconvention.org. If for some reason you have to cancel, we will refund your registration minus the \$10 transaction fee up until August 8, 2021.

We also understand you may have a concern about attending the convention due to the coronavirus so we have been working on a plan "B" so the convention can still take place. The hotel has a large Poolside Terrace that is covered with a 40 X 80 tent. So, if needed we can hold our large events and maybe even some clinics in this area with social distancing. Of course, we expect that will not be needed as Orange County is starting to return to normalcy.

A convention of this size takes several years of planning and of course with the current conditions that is much harder. We need the membership to help us out by letting us know if they are planning to attend so we can plan accordingly. Please register early if you are planning to attend.

If you have not been to the Orange Blossom Special website, you should visit it and see all the great events, clinics, and layouts already planned. The Convention starts on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 with early registration, some clinics in the afternoon and in the evening an Ice Cream Social Welcome Reception. This will be a great opportunity for you to meet up with some old friends and make plans for the rest of the week. Thursday, September 9 will start out with the Pacific Southwest Region General Membership Meeting, followed with clinics in the AM, then layout/prototype tours and Op's sessions in the afternoon and more clinics that evening. Friday, September 10 starts with clinics in the AM followed by layout tours and Op's in the afternoon concluding the day with the Hobo Auction. Saturday, September 11 please join us at the 7:00 AM Hobo breakfast followed by a swap meet and more clinics. In the afternoon more layout tours and Op's, and Saturday night the Awards and Recognition Banquet. And yes, we also have Non-Rail events and a show/contest room as well. So, as you can see a lot of planning has already taken place. It would be a shame if you missed out on all the fun and fellowship. Please register now and take advantage of the discount rate.

Additionally, the hotel room block is now open so you can book your room on line. I encourage members to book early as we have a limited number of rooms blocked and they will sell out fast. A link to the hotel registration site can be found on our website.

Carl Heimberger
2021 PSR Convention Chair

BUILDING THE MOUND HOUSE DEPOT by Dave Arendes

I'm a Virginia and Truckee Railroad nut. So when the Narrow Gauge and Shortline Gazette published plans for the joint V&T/Carson and Colorado Passenger station I had to build it. In fact I did it twice. Once as a mockup and the second time for real. (See Figure 1)



Figure 1: Mock Up of Mound House Depot

For windows and doors I found matching the drawing to the Tichy Train Group windows and doors easy, they had the exact six pain windows needed. I only had to scratch build only one baggage door. I use my Cricut crafting machine to do almost all my wall cutting. I measured and redrew the plans into the Cricut Design Space software. This allowed me cut out my walls on copy paper to ensure that I did not miss anything. I did, I forgot to include one door and one window. I went back and recut the walls on copy paper. It looked good and I tried the windows into the openings; all fit. I tried taping it together, but it just flopped down. Time to cut it out of poster board, it did. Then I taped the poster board walls together. It started to look like a building, but I could do better. I looked through my downloads and there I found a red board and batten HO scale PDF file from TeamTrack and printed it out. I used the Cricut and cut the walls from the PDF and glued to the posterboard walls. The walls were reinforced with 1/8 inch strips and assembled.

The roof was the next item to be worked on. I measured the Narrow Gauge and Shortline Gazette drawings and drew them using Cricut Design Space. The main roof was quick to enter and I then cut the roof out of poster board. The roof for the eaves was a little more difficult to draw since the eaves hung at an angle. It took me a couple of try's to get the proper angle on the pieces I cut on the Cricut, but after about three attempts it looked good. I then looked and found a shake shingle PDF from TeamTrak to glue to the poster board.

Before the roof could be installed, the most tedious part of the project had to start, the eve supports. I measured the drawings and make a Jig to ensure that each support was the same as the others. The supports were made of styrene strips so the jig was make of cardstock and stripwood. Each support was cut and glued in the jig and I had to wait for the glue to dry before moving on to the next support. It was faster then waiting for stripwood to dry but still was a slow project to finish.

When all supports were finished I glued then to the walls and then put the roof on. After looking at the mockup I was almost happy – I was tempted to stop at this point, but.....I could do better.

[Continued on page 6](#)

Time now to start of the building I was planning to keep and bring to the V&T Historical Society Conference.

I had all the walls laid out on my Cricut all I had to do is put my styrene Board and Batten siding in my Cricut and start cutting. After I cut the walls out, I realized that I was missing a detail on the drawing. The ticket window was missing, at first I thought the detail was blackboard with train times until I looked at some photos and realized it was really a ticket window. I was not going to waste the wall and cut a new one with the window on my Cricut, so I got out my scale ruler and marked out the ticket window on the styrene wall and cut it out with an exacto blade. I trimmed the opening with styrene strip.

I painted the walls the standard V&T color which is very close to Boxcar red. I used a cosmetic sponge to apply the red, and then used a sponge to apply a very light coat of grey over the red to tone down the color slightly. The windows were painted with a white primer and then toned down slightly with a light grey applied with a cosmetic sponge. This is almost a dry brush, but using a sponge instead of a brush. The windows and doors were installed in the wall, styrene bracing was applied to the back of the walls, and then the walls were assembled.

The roof was next, the V&T originally had the shake shingle roofs painted green, but in the middle to end 1870's painted the roofs red. I chose for the green shingles, because I just think the green looks good with the red walls. I applied shingles from rail scale models with the self-adhesive back. To make it easier to keep the shingles straight, I had scored lines about 1/8 inch apart on the roof before I started to apply shingles. After the roof sections were shingled, I put the roof on the building, starting with the eaves. I glued the eve supports on the walls and then glued the eaves to the supports. This was a fiddly and time consuming job to keep everything straight.

With the walls and roof done, the next job was to build a foundation for the building. The original building was on a wood foundation, so I added a stripwood foundation to the model. The model was close to being finished except for chimneys and signs. I was going to scratch build the chimneys, but while looking around the internet I found the chimneys I wanted on the Bar Mills website. I ordered them and were quickly delivered. The fun began when I had to cut them to match the angle of the roof and get the correct height for the chimneys. With a little work with a razer saw and files the job was done. The bricks were painted and the mortar lines came from joint compound rubbed on the chimneys.

For the signs I have to thank my wife for her computer skills. I showed her the sign and she found an image of the original Mound House depot sign and made a reproduction for me.

Final note on Mound House Depot, this model is of the second Mound House Depot. The original Mound House Depot was moved from Mound House to Dayton NV. The original Depot had freight as well as passenger areas. Sadly the original depot in Dayton was destroyed by arson in the spring of 2020.



Manufacturing Kadee Couplers

Mike Allee

On my trip to WOOPS (Western Oregon Operation Session) in June 2019 I stopped at Kadee in White City. I was just curious and had no idea what I would walk into. I did expect to see a showroom, no showroom. I introduced myself to the ladies in the office and the owners dog I was a modeler passing through and was curious. They responded that the company didn't have public tours. About that time a gentleman came through a door I was standing next to and introduced himself, Sam Clarke. After a few friendly verbal exchanges he invited me to accompany him on a tour of the facility.

When I drove up the building it didn't look too large, boy was I wrong. During the hour and half tour, we walked through several doors from one department to another. They do everything in house nothing is outsourced. They even do print jobs for other companies as well as design and build some of their own assembly equipment. (More on that later.)

One of the first stops was at a machine that was spitting out little shinny silver things, about a fast as you could count. "Don't touch", Sam cautioned "they're hot". Looking at the top of the machine was a silvery-gray bar, zinc I was told. Just below was a silvery pool of molten zinc. It was obvious the zinc was being melted and flowing into a mold. Out came what turned out to be the shank portion of a coupler.

Further on came to the machine that inserts the "glad hand" that holds the two parts of the couple together and either magnetically or mechanically used to open the coupler.. The operator places the two parts into the jig and then moves hands to switches on both sides of the machine and presses buttons. (safety feature) The machine inserts the "glad hand" from a roll of wire cutting and bending it as well.

It took some where between 3 and 4 years to develop the machine that installs the whiskers. Didn't see it in operation but was told it was automatic. Some quantity of couplers were placed in a tray and one dropped down at a time and aligned then the whiskers were added.

I watched a gal install knuckle springs at a rate of about three a minute. Some of the speed I'm sure is doing it hundreds of times. The key to the quickness, I think, is two procedures, placing the springs in a small box and shaking it. This causes most of the hundred or more springs to separate, Then placing the springs on a piece of cloth, it looked like a swatch of jean. It's just enough to hold the spring in place to allow the tool to be inserted between the coils of the spring. I use to have my springs in a small vial and dumped them on to work surface or into my hand and look for individual springs and usually have to separate a couple which takes time, no more. Although I don't use the patch of cloth I just find a spring at the edge of the box. I pass this information along it's a real time and frustration saver. Did you know the standard and semi scale couplers take different springs?

I learned a long time ago about filing the mold seam from the knuckle face and from inside the knuckle and the shank. Then rub the face on a graphite area of a note card. This is probably a procedure that started way back in time by fellow modelers who are now modeling in the sky. The couplers may have been a little rougher out of the mold. Todays coupler seems a lot smoother. I asked if graphite was added to the paint, Sam answered the paint was thicker. I still prepare my couplers as described. I've noticed when I operate and I have difficulty picking knuckles the coupler has not been dressed. I believe the seams inside the two knuckles are hanging up.

As we toured the car model section I was told that no glue/cement was used to assemble everything was a press fit. Didn't linger here long the area wasn't in production at the time.

They were in the process of moving all of their stock to a new building next door to provide floor space for additional manufacturing. I later learned the additional manufacturing was not associated with the hobby. They were going into rifle manufacturing. Everything in house except the barrel, made elsewhere in Oregon.

Closing thoughts: There are seven sets of hands used to build a coupler, from the time the zinc is melted to packaging. In my mind the price we pay for couplers is cheap. I've thought of Sam a few times since thinking he'd make a good friend.

Support Your Local Hobby Store

In these times when Hobby Stores have not been able to function normally, we need to continue to support them when we can. There are 3 Brick and mortar train stores in our area that support our hobby;

Arnie's & Milepost OPEN for regular business!

Come in and shop around!

Arnie's HOURS: Tuesday - Saturday 10am-6pm

Milepost 38 HOURS: Tuesday - Saturday 10am-5pm

***Social distancing of 6' will be enforced & we ask that you wear
a face-cover for the safety of other customers and employees per OC Guidelines.***

Arnie's Trains www.arniesmodeltrains.com 714-893-1015

Milepost 38 Toy Trains | www.milepost38.com 714-892-9471

6462 Industry Way, Westminster, CA 92683

NOTE: There is highway work going on around Arnie's so check with them about the best route.

RailMaster Hobbies, 9812 Belmont St., Bellflower, Ca. 90706 562-867-5627

Tuesday - Friday 10:00am to 6:00pm

Saturday - 10:00am to 5:00pm

Sunday - 12:00pm to 4:00 pm

Following us on;

www.railmasterhobbies.com

www.facebook.com/railmasterhobbies

Twitter - @RMHobbies

Restrictions to come into the store:

We follow official health guidelines

We do thank all of you for your support. Stay safe.

Jeff and Leticia Smith and Crew

The Train Crossing, 1113 Baker Street, Costa Mesa, Ca 92626 714-549-1596

Store Hours

Tuesday - Friday 11:00am to 7:00pm

Saturday - 9:00am to 5:00pm

Sunday - 11:00am to 3:00 pm

Closed Mondays

www.TheTrainCrossing.com

Authorized Lionel Repair Dealer

Restrictions to come into the store:

We follow official health guidelines John Amir