



# CALLBOARD

Redwood Empire Division PCR/NMRA

Website: [www.pcrnmra.org/redwood/](http://www.pcrnmra.org/redwood/)

Summer 2018

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### • RED Picnic

Roots of Motive Power  
Steam Festival  
September 8, 2018

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## CALLBOARD

### RED Summer Picnic

Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival

Saturday, September 8, 2018

Willits, CA

The RED will hold its annual picnic meeting at the **Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival** in Willits, CA, Saturday, September 8th. A large variety of steam-powered equipment will be operating throughout the day. In addition, the **Early Days Gas Engine Society** and **Bill Rose's Model A Tour Group** will also be in attendance. The festival hosts the Roots Appreciation BBQ and raffle at the end of the day. Admittance to the festival is free.

- The festival starts at 10:00 am and is located just east of the NWP tracks on Commercial Street. Dave Grundman suggests we try to arrive at 9:30 am. ([MAP](#))
- We will meet at the Recreation Grove Park across the street from the festival.
- You are responsible for your lunch. Food is available in town and at the festival.
- The **Annual Appreciation Barbecue** begins at 4 pm. and will include locally raised pork, lamb and beef (\$15 adults/\$6 kids). Live music, a silent auction and raffle will fill the afternoon with cheers.
- Please wear comfortable shoes, bring sunscreen, a broad hat, a cell phone to keep in touch and a camera. Folding and/or camp chairs are also advised.
- Carpooling is best and more fun plus it minimizes the parking question. Dave Grundman has volunteered to coordinate the car pools. Please contact Dave at 707-529-5051 or email him at [dave\\_pat\\_1999@yahoo.com](mailto:dave_pat_1999@yahoo.com) for more information.

If you are planning to attend the festival please respond to this email with the number of people in your group who plan to attend.

The following links will provide additional information about the festival and equipment as well as other local attractions.

Roots of Motive Power web site  
<https://rootsofmotivepower.com/>

Festival Information  
<https://visitmendocino.com/event/roots-motive-power-steam-festival/>

Equipment  
<https://rootsofmotivepower.com/equipment/>

Mendocino County Museum  
<https://www.facebook.com/MendocinoMuseum/>

The Skunk Train  
<https://www.skunktrain.com/>

***Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival pictures on the next page.***

## Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival

A few photographs from previous festivals.



All equipment may not be on display every day.

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**Director's Report - Steve Skold**

Our summer picnic is a little late this year as we are doing it in conjunction with the Roots of Motive Power steam up in Willits on Saturday September 8<sup>th</sup>. It starts at 10 AM with everything they have being steamed up. You will get to see operating steam donkeys, a real steam shovel, a steam roller actually operating on steam and of course a steam locomotive. I am bringing a picnic lunch and some camp chairs to sit under the trees in the park across the street from the steam up. There is also a BBQ late in the afternoon, but we are having difficulty finding out details such as time and cost.

Our next meeting will be back at Monroe Hall on November 17<sup>th</sup> with our usual Show and Tell, clinic, door prizes and raffle and whatever else the Redwood Empire Division Staff plans on doing. If there is something particular you would like to

see, don't be shy in letting one of the officers know.

On a sad note, long time supporter Liz Cabrall passed away on July 18<sup>th</sup>. Liz was the widow of Don Cabrall, one of the best modelers in the Redwood Empire area. Many of you remember his Hessel and Lone Pine Railroad. For years the Sonoma County Hi-Ballers met to operate on a monthly basis. Liz was a great hostess and many of us came early to sit in their living room while Liz told us entertaining stories about sailboat races she participated in and later was part of the race committee at Richmond Yacht Club. She organized an informal sailing club called Mom's Racing Team. The slogan was Powered By Guilt.

I hope to see many of you next month in Willets and hope you enjoy what is left of the summer.

**Superintendent's Report - Scott Lockhart**

I hope everyone has enjoyed a wonderful summer and have not been directly impacted by the terrible wildfires in Lake and Mendocino Counties. As mentioned above, the RED picnic will take place at the **Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival**. I have not attended this event before and I am looking forward to seeing a lot of steam powered vehicles in action.

With the coming Fall I have started to look at locomotives and rolling stock that need tune-ups as well as projects that have been sitting neglected in my hobby closet. To get the juices flowing, I start reviewing various books in my library as well as railroading web sites for help and inspiration. I am continuously amazed at the amount of reference material that is available such as the online magazines Model Railroad Hobbyist and Trackside Model Railroading.

Of course, the NMRA has a large online presence as do many of the traditional model railroad magazines. If you model a specific railroad I encourage you to look for your railroads modeling and historical societies. While many of the organizations have publications or newsletters, most of them have very informative web sites as well. I also use Pinterest to locate images of Santa Fe steam and diesel locomotives as well as passenger and reefer equipment. We truly live in a golden age of access to model railroad information.

This is my first issue as the new editor of the Callboard. Please feel free to send me comments and suggestions.

I look forward to seeing you at the **Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival** on Saturday, September 8th in Willits.

**Chief Clerk's Report - Dudley Peters**

The RED currently has \$6149.70 in it's checking account, with approximately another \$20 in cash. We will look at purchasing items for the meeting door prize/raffle.



# SPOTLIGHT ON A LOCAL CLUB

## Sonoma Short Line Modular Group

### Sonoma Depot Christmas Show - December 2018

The Sonoma Short Line modular group is hosting the 6th Annual Christmas Show at the Depot Park Museum in Sonoma. We will be open for three 3-day weekends on December 7,8,9 and December 14,15,16 and December 21,22,23. The hours will be from Noon until 4 PM each day. Donations are requested and proceeds will be split between

Depot Park Museum and Sonoma Short Line.

The Sonoma Short Line is made up of Steve Lewis, Dave Ulmer, Dud Peters and Steve Skold. We are also looking for new members and this would be a good way to see what we are doing. John Rolston is a member of the Depot Park Museum and will bring his beautifully built return loop. The layout is loosely based on the Southern Pacific branch line from Sonoma through Glen Ellen and Melitta Station to the old Santa Rosa Depot on North Street.



Pictures from previous Christmas Shows

## SPOTLIGHT ON A LOCAL LAYOUT

### Dave Grundman's Layout Notes

This is the second installment from Dave Grundman. You may view his first article on his layout notes in the Winter 2018 Callboard (<http://www.pcrnmra.org/redwood/callboard.html>).

The last time I wrote about this I suggested that you need to start now to avoid my situation where I have turned 70 and still planning the layout. Today I can tell you that things are well underway. Initially, I met with the Layout Design Special Interest Group (they had a two-day convention on layout design) with my sketches. This was helpful, but again, I was still getting older and still planning.

I used a computer program (Cadrail) to do this, but if you took drafting in school, the manual approach will also work. Cadrail (there are other programs including a free one from Atlas) allows you to set your own standards as far as turnout size, minimum track radius, grades etc. What I did find here was that my initial sketch and what can actually be done, given my design standards, did not allow such an elaborate layout. It is best to find out now instead of purchasing a lot of track and turnouts that you cannot use. However, things can change just like real railroads, revisions can be made. So don't worry about getting things perfect the first time.

I began by setting up my layout tables in such a way that they could be constructed in my garage and then moved to the train room. Years from now, they can be removed the same way, modular. For the actual layout, I downloaded turnout templates and printed a bunch of them, placing them where I thought they should be. One inch wide blue tape was used to represent the track. Revisions are easy here.

At this point, I just have the fiddle yard, engine servicing, and the station location done. More on the layout construction as it progresses.

Paint the backdrop first. My first try ended up with way too many clouds so it was painted over with fewer clouds, but this time, I added a thunderstorm.

Dave Grundman



# Tips, Techniques and Resources

We are fortunate to have a tremendous amount of modeling talent in the RED. Past issues of the CALLBOARD have featured articles on ways to improve your modeling skills. This is an article from a past issue of the CALLBOARD. Additional articles will be reprinted in future issues. **WE ENCOURAGE YOU** to submit articles on projects you have completed or are now working on that would be of interest to your fellow modelers.

## Big Red's Workbench Tips and Techniques

### REPLICATING RUST

Texture and color are the two main components of rusting metal. There are many ways to achieve the "look". Here is another simple techniques.

Once you have got to the point of painting and weathering the first thing to do is lightly spray a mist coat of Scale MotorSports' s Faux Fabric. Use Velvet gray color #5510, which is close to Automotive Primer Gray. When you spray on the texture, don't hold the can in one position and just blast away. You probably will get a few large, unrealistic spurts of "texture". In stead, sweep the can across your model as you spray, much the same way as a color coat. If you don't over do it, you'll get a subtly textured surface that a great base for your rust color.

Now try a coat of Rust - Oleum American Accent Natural Rust. It's a fine textured paint that not only will protect but gives a rusty color coat. Build up of crud and gunk around parts of machinery can be achieved by small deposits of baking soda placed in the wet rust paint. When everything is dry you can go back and add an old greasy black color to heighten the effect.



This is an edited clip from Scale Auto Magazine

## Northern California Model Railroading Resources

RED member Al Merkrebs has started an online email group, the ModelRailroadsofNoCalif@groups.io. As the moderator, he provides a wonderful variety of information about the latest happenings with model railroad groups and individuals in Northern California. He also includes resources for modeling tips and techniques. You can join the group at:

<https://groups.io/g/ModelRailroadsofNoCalif>.





## NMRA President's Award for Service to the Division in Model Railroading

This year National NMRA is instituting a new award called "The NMRA President's Award for Service to the Division." It will be awarded by the NMRA President to one individual in each Region who has done outstanding, "beyond-the-call-of-duty" work to make his or her local Division effective, engaging, and welcoming to members.

You probably know the type of individual we're talking about. This is a person who's been a Division newsletter editor forever, or has served in several officer positions in his or her Division, or has helped set up the annual train show for decades. These are the people who make Divisions work, who make them interesting and engaging and fun for members.

We're not talking about people who've served your Region – you probably have your own award for those folks. We're not talking about people who go out and promote the NMRA to non-members. We're talking about people who put their nose to the grindstone and work hard in their Division...and who normally never get recognized for all their hard work.

### This Year's Award Goes to Gus Campagna

Gus Campagna has been member of the Redwood Empire Division since 1982. Gus's work and influence over the years have literally kept the Division afloat. He has held a number of elected positions, including Chief Clerk (1989-1993), Superintendent (1993-1995), and PCR Director representing RED (1999-2002, 2007). He has served as RED Membership Chair on a continuous basis since 2003 and continues to serve as the original and only RED Webmaster (he has also performed this function for the PCR's Sierra Division and for the Northwestern Pacific Historical Society, whose Board he serves on as well). He is one of the "old hands" on every convention committee the RED has put together (as well as others) for the PCR. He was the convention chair for the PCR convention in 1999. He edited the RED Callboard, for six years. He has been the audio visual expert for the PCR and RED meets as well as PCR conventions. On the Regional level, he has directed the PCR Publication Department since 2001, even briefly stepping in as the editor of its Branch Line. To top it off, he and his wife Mary (also a an active PCR member) have long provided lunches for sale at RED quarterly meets, extending this service to Coast Division meets as well. In short, it's hard to come up with things that Gus hasn't done for the RED.



PCR President Ed Merrin presenting the award to Gus Campagna



## DIAMOND RAILS FOREVER

### PCR/FRRS Joint Convention

**May 1 - 5, 2019**  
**Sacramento, CA**

**Ed Merrin**  
**PCR President**

By now you should have seen at least one of the detailed notices from Chris Palermo, PCR Secretary and Social Media Coordinator, that Diamond Rails Forever, our 2019 PCR Convention, is finally open for registration. If you haven't, consider yourself notified!

Diamond Rails Forever is named to commemorate the fact that this will be PCR's 75th Annual Convention. I don't know about you, but I wasn't even born at the time of the first. That puts a relatively high bar on our expectations, but I am confident that the Host Committee, staffed by leaders of PCR's Sierra Division, are up to the task.

The specific details are available on the convention website (<http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/>) . It is a joint venture with the Feather River Rail Society and is scheduled for May 2-5 in Sacramento. This event is going to differ a little from what we are used to but in ways that we are likely to see more frequently in the future. Some of this is largely an adaptation to changes in the hospitality industry marketplace. Costs are going up and PCR convention planners are working out ways to provide the experiences that we have grown to love over the years without passing on additional costs to the members.

There are two main changes. First, in recent years we have been able to combine the meeting facilities and hotel rooms in one fairly upscale facility. That's getting harder to do so we are splitting ourselves between two closely spaced locations. We have the McClellan Conference Center for clinics, meetings, contests, the banquet, and so on. The nearby Lions Gate Hotel will be there for after hours socializing and snoozing. The second change is that this is a four-day meeting instead of a five-day one. Rather than starting on Wednesday afternoon it starts on Thursday morning (although hotel rooms will be available for Wednesday night). Scheduling of activities will be adjusted accordingly.

Apart from these structural changes everything will be familiar. There will be clinics, a contest room, prototype and model tours, operating sessions, hobo breakfast, Awards Banquet, Board of Directors meeting, Sunday breakfast meeting, and so forth. There are shirts and convention cars to order as well.

So get yourself to the website and register ASAP!

**[Register for the Convention HERE!](http://www.pcrnmra.org/redwood/)**



# Comin' Down the Line

## 2018

**September 8, 2018** - 9:30 am, [Redwood Empire Division](#) (RED), Annual Summer Meet & Picnic, Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival, East Commerce St (west of US-101, across the street from Grove Park), Willits, CA. ([MAP](#))

**September 12 – 16, 2018** - [Pacific Southwest Region 2018 Convention](#), Beach Op's 2018, The Courtyard San Diego Mission Valley, 595 Hotel Circle South, San Diego, CA 92108. [MAP](#) • [PowerPoint](#)

**September 23, 2018** - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, **FREE** Local Model Railroading Maker Event! BPOE Elks Lodge, 2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501, [MAP](#)

**September 23, 2018** - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Coast Division Event, Alameda Elks Lodge, 2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501, [Pacific Coast Region](#) [MAP](#)

**October 5 – 7, 2018** - [Central Coast Railroad Festival](#), San Luis Obispo and Northern Santa Barbara Counties, CA., Hosted by [San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum](#), 1940 Santa Barbara Avenue, San Luis Obispo, CA. [MAP](#)

**October 13, 2018** - [Sierra Division](#) Fall Meet, Morning activities still TBD.

**October 13 & 14, 2018** - 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Fall Train Show and Train Estate Sale, [Black Diamond Lines Model Railroad Club](#), 425 Fulton Shipyard Rd, Antioch, CA. [MAP](#)

**October 13 & 14, 2018** - 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Model Railroad Open House, [Carquinez Model Railroad Society](#), 645 Loring Ave (across from C&H Sugar), Crockett, CA. ([MAP](#))

**November 1 – 3, 2018** - [The Fine Scale Model Expo 2018](#), Downtown Albany New York Hilton & Convention Center, Albany, New York.

**November 10 & 11, 2018** - Saturday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Sunday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, FREE Model Train Show, [Tehachapi Loop Railroad Club](#), Aspen Builders Inc. Activity Center at the Tehachapi Recreation and Park District, 410 West "D" Street (off Mill Street), Tehachapi, CA. [MAP](#)

**November 17, 2018** - 11:00 am to 4:00 pm, [Redwood Empire Division](#) Spring Meet, Monroe Hall, 1400 West College Ave, Santa Rosa, CA. [MAP](#)

**December 2, 2018** - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, **FREE** Local Model Railroading Maker Event! , 1001 Davis Street, San Leandro, CA. (at SF Bay Area Council Office of Boy Scouts of America)

**December 2, 2018** - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, **FREE** Local Model Railroading Maker Event! , 1001 Davis Street, San Leandro, CA. (at SF Bay Area Council Office of Boy Scouts of America)

**December 8 & 9, 2018** - 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Model Railroad Open House, [Carquinez Model Railroad Society](#), 645 Loring Ave (across from C&H Sugar), Crockett, CA. ([MAP](#))