



# CALLBOARD

## Redwood Empire Division PCR/NMRA

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

Spring 2018

### Special points of interest:

- Spring RED Event  
May 19, 2018
- 

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### Spring Event

### Monroe Hall Santa Rosa

*The next Redwood Empire Division Event will be at Monroe Hall on May 19, 2018 starting at 11:30am. The doors will be open at 10:30am and we must be done by 4pm. Monroe Hall is at 1400 W College Avenue in Santa Rosa. Mary's Snack Shop will be there for lunch. Wear your name badge, bring a door prize, a guest, or a show & tell item for an extra door prize ticket.*

On May 19th at Monroe Hall we will have our Spring Redwood Empire Division Event. Mary Moore-Campagna will have a delicious lunch for sale, Dud Peters will have outstanding Door Prizes and we will learn something about what it takes to build a contest quality model. Our usual Show & Tell session will demonstrate a few models that were entered in the Enduring Rails Model Contest. They will also have their score sheets so we may see what points were awarded and hopefully why the model got those points. Learning to build better models drives most of us, so this should be a FUN event. Everyone is encouraged to bring a model to show and tell; they do not have to be judged or 'evaluated' unless that is something you want for your model. Some experienced judges will be on hand to give us tips for building better models and what to write up for the judges so they spot what you have done.

As always, wearing your R.E.D. name badge will earn you an extra door prize ticket. Also, bringing a item to become a future door prize will get you an extra ticket for this drawing. Bring along a friend too!

See you on the 19th at Monroe Hall, Santa Rosa.



Giuseppe Aymar, MMR receives the 2018 John Allen Award at the Enduring Rails Convention Awards Dinner.

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Call Board Editor  
VACANT

**Director's Report—Steve Skold**

First, I would like to thank all who took time to vote in the recent election for RED Director. The election was conducted electronically for the first time which resulted in about 3 times as many voters as we usually have. At the same time NMRA conducted an electronic election. This means it is important for everyone to have their correct e-mail address with NMRA. If you change your e-mail address, contact NMRA right away. This is also important on the Regional and Division level as the Branch Line and Callboard are distributed electronically.

The PCR Board Meeting was held at the DoubleTree Hotel in Rohnert Park during the recent PCR Convention. A new PCR Logo was submitted by Vice President Carol Alexander and was accepted by the board pending a review by Union Pacific Railroad, who have the rights to the South Pacific Coast Sunset logo which was acquired by the Southern Pacific Railroad (which was, in turn, acquired by the UP).

The new PCR photo racks were successfully introduced for the PCR photo contest. We did not have enough clips to hold the photos so additional clips have been purchased. Plastic clamps were used in the emergency. The new racks are easier to transport and store.

Conventions are becoming more expensive and hotels are more difficult to deal with. A committee has been formed to study alternative and less expensive ways to hold conventions. We hope this problem will be solved by the mid-year board meeting in October. Next year's convention will be held in Sacramento near the old McClellan Air Force Base. Details should be in the next Branch Line this summer.

Two highlights of the PCR Contest were from RED. Wendy Peters won Best of Show in Arts and Crafts for her beautiful railroad themed quilt. Giuseppe Aymar not only received Best in Show for his model but also received a perfect score of 125 points.

Last, I would like to thank all the people who put hours and hours of time and effort to make the Enduring Rails Convention such a success.

Just as a further reminder about the Awards Ceremony at Enduring Rails: Carol Skold was awarded the PCR Member of the Year Award, Ron Kaiser was awarded the RED Member of the Year Award and Giuseppe Aymar was awarded the prestigious John Allen Award.

**Superintendent's Report****Scott Lockhart**

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, if you attended the Enduring Rails Convention, I hope you had a wonderful time. From all accounts, the convention was a great success. This was my first convention working with a convention committee. I knew that the planning and execution of a convention involves a tremendous amount of work from a group of very dedicated volunteers. I just didn't have a clue. My hat's off to the everyone involved in this year's convention. This includes the clinic, layout, vendor, display and non-rail participants. Looking to the future, the upcoming RED meeting will be held, Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, at Monroe Hall, on College Avenue, in Santa Rosa. The meeting program will cover building and judging models for

contests. You may not ever enter a contest, but the hints and tips will help you build better models. You might even consider becoming a contest judge. Of course, please bring your model railroad items of interest for Show and Tell. There will be the raffle and wonderful lunch treats from Mary Moore-Campagna. Be sure to invite your model railroading friends! Please mark your calendars for the Fall RED Meeting – Saturday, November 18, 2018. We are investigating having the RED Summer Picnic at the Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival taking place the weekend of September 8-9 in Willits, CA. Again, more information will be forthcoming.  
Scott Lockhart

**Late breaking information:**

There will be a Layout Tour after the next R.E.D. Event at Monroe Hall. Ron Kaiser will open his Western Pacific Railroad for us to visit. Ron has expanded on his scenery and the model railroad is running smoothly. I'm sure you can pick up a throttle and have some FUN on this fine layout. Join me after the meet for some extra FUN at the Western Pacific in Santa Rosa.

Maps will be available at Monroe Hall.

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



## Enduring Rails—PCR's Annual Convention

Speaking as the Registrar for Enduring Rails, we had a great convention. If you missed it, you missed a FUN time. We had over 200 folks registered to attend, including many First Timers and new members. I had a wonderful volunteer crew to help out with (well *actually run*) the registration desk. Thanks to Pam Kaiser, Anne Croshere, Wendy Peters and Denni Baumer for stepping up and doing such a wonderful job. This year we put the Registration desk, Contest Room, Company Store and Door Prize giveaway all in the same room. We even squeezed in the Switching Contest and a few

very well done modular layouts. I was able to give a clinic on Wednesday and to see a few during the week. I also attended Movie Night and laughed at the wonderful presentation of three episodes of Oh Doctor Beeching! The Wednesday night Welcome Party was a loud and smashing success - thanks to Chris Palermo and his Law Firm for sponsoring this event. The Awards Banquet speakers were also a treat; finding out about CSRM's new directions was fascinating.



The contest room crew hard at work: Carol Alexander, Carol Skold and Dave Grenier.



The new Photo racks in use at this year's contest.



The Civil War Diorama from the back side. Fabulous N scale work by Mike Blumensaadt.



Enduring Rails Company Store staffed by Dave Turner, Andrea Turner and Bob Battles. Lots of cool NWPRRHs stuff for sale including our NWP Convention boxcar.

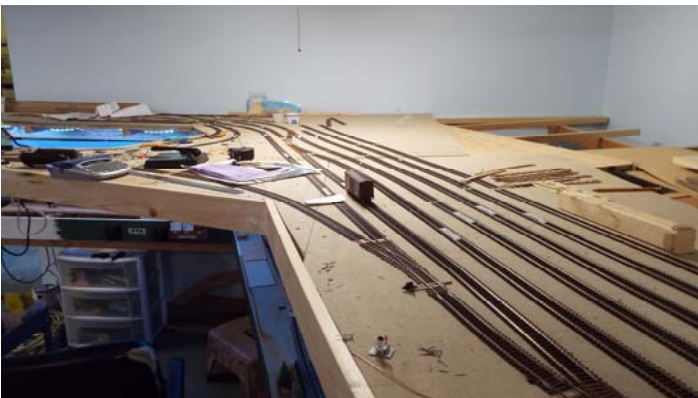


The following layouts were open during the convention. Some were open for layout tours while others for operating sessions; some were open for both. I hope that everyone got a chance to see these great local layouts in person.

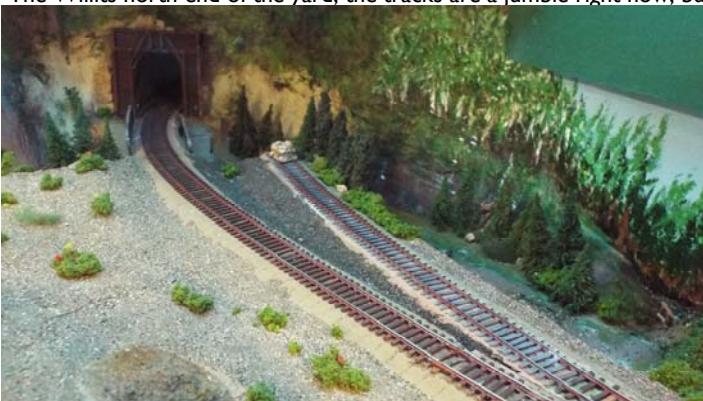
**Verne Alexander's** HO scale Colville, Republic and Palouse RR; **Peter Barnes's** Bummel Bahn (a Marklin model railroad); **Gus Campagna's** HO scale California Western; **Ron Kaiser's** HO scale Western Pacific; **Bill Kaufman's** HO scale SF Belt; **Ron Learn's** HO scale NWP; **Ed Merrin's** HO scale NWP; **North Coast HMRS** HO scale NWP modular model railroad; **Dud Peters** HO scale Cumberland & Parksburg Railroad; **Robert Pethoud's** HO scale Fall Creek Branch switching railroad; **Jim Providenza's** HO scale Santa Cruz Northern; **Jon Schmidt's** HO scale Nicasio Northern; **Richard Schoenstein's** 3-rail O scale RS; **Ernie Simard's** HO scale Western Pacific; **Tom Swearingen's** HO scale Cal Pacific; **Bill Wells** O scale Midland Terminal.

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I had over 60 visitors to my California Western layout over the two days it was open. I was saddened only that I was not far enough along in construction to hold an operating session. The layout now has 2 1/2 levels that can be operated, but we have not run trains on any kind of systematic level to test the operations scheme. This will be the next major push for the crew - to get the operations going. I am slowly finishing up the Willits end of level three; when it is done, a full operation schedule can be run. The scenery on the layout is moving right along too, with backdrop painting, water scenes and some buildings already in place.



The Willits north end of the yard, the tracks are a jumble right now, but eventually the yard tracks and wye tracks will all come together.



Two of the water scenes under construction, tunnel #1 portal with a creek and Redwood Creek on level two.

The concept for the scenery is that the railroad runs through a lot of tree-covered locations, crossing or running along creeks and rivers for a lot of the time. Outside of the yards (Willits & Fort Bragg), there are four passing locations on the railroad, so the timing of trains will be a very important feature of the operation sessions. The tentative CWR schedule has six passenger trains, four through freights and two or more log trains and a local switch job. The NWP's Willits operation will see passenger and freight trains as well.

## Calendar of Events:

May 12, 2018

- Sierra Division Meet

May 19, 2018

- RED Event Monroe Hall

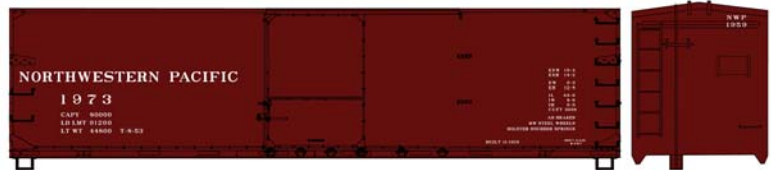
June 3, 2018

- Coast Division Meet

Go to [www.pcrnmra.org/pcr/calendar/calendar.shtml](http://www.pcrnmra.org/pcr/calendar/calendar.shtml)

For more dates and more details

## Enduring Rails Convention Car



The special convention cars are Accurail HO scale USRA double sheathed boxcar kits. NWPRR received 100 cars ordered by USRA as built in 1919. Not included in the convention cars are the 32 cars that were converted to express service (i.e. # 1900, 1904, 1906, 1909, 1910, 1916, 1917, 1939, 1943, 1946, 1947, 1951, 1952, 1952, 1953, 1960, 1964, 1969, 1984, 1986, 1989, 1992, 1997). The convention cars are painted and lettered (including the renumber decals) in the revenue freight service scheme as repainted by NWP in 1946. A set of eleven renumber decals will be available for purchase or can be ordered from Accurail.

The cars were available for pre-order with your convention registration for pickup at the same time as your registration materials. Also, they were for sale in the company store during the convention. All remaining cars are available for sale from the NWPRRHS website at: <http://www.nwprrhs.org/for-sale.html>

The prices are: one for \$25, two for \$48, four for \$92, or all six numbers for \$126. The website uses PayPal and will include shipping charges with your purchase. You may pick up the cars at the NWPRRHS Archive on our regular open day of Thursday from 10 am until 4 pm to avoid the shipping charge. Only cash and checks are accepted at the Archive. We are located in Petaluma at 1364 No. McDowell Blvd. across from the Kohl's shopping center. We will select the number for orders with fewer than six cars.

The lettering is based upon a Walt Whittaker photo of car 1973 as shown in [Railway Prototype Cyclopedia](#), Volume 16. An image of the car is shown above. Included with each kit are a pair of NWP decals for those who want an extra bit of colorful NWP history. A special thanks to Dave Turner for the research done to get these prototype cars and to Clark Stewart for the custom decals produced by John Rodgers.



A scout and a convention attendee check out the Civil War Diorama in the contest room.

## Boy Scouts Merit Badge Program

The Enduring Rails convention included a Merit Badge program for local Boy Scouts. The event was very successful, with over twenty boys participating. The scouts and the leaders of the program, Steve Lewis and Greg Phillips, first met at the Double Tree and then went to the Restoration yard of the NWPRRHS in Petaluma to finish the day. While at the Double Tree, they got to talk with Clark Stewart, a retired locomotive engineer, to find out what operating a locomotive is all about. The Operation Lifesaver group from SMART made a presentation as well. The scouts also had an opportunity to wander around the convention site and see what was there. They had work stations set up in the Restoration facility to work on their merit badges and got to see the restoration of the wooden railcars up close and personal.

This program will be repeated next year with the cooperation of the NWPRRHS and the Redwood Empire Division.

# Contest Report at the Enduring Rails 2018

By Giuseppe Aymar, MMR  
PCR Contest Manager

How about that Contest room full of incredible models, displays, Art & Crafts and photos, plus a large assortment of non-judged/display-only items that made your head spin and froze your mouth in a perpetual smile!! I would definitely say we had a winner of a contest. The most surprising result came from our own Wendy Peters (Dudley's wife) who entered a needlepoint artwork depicting a CSX diesel locomotive coming straight at you from the quilt that was so beautifully done it was judged Best of Show. And to think this was her first-ever entry in our Contest. Clark Stewart displayed his impressive Circus train of old which he has reproduced faithfully, using information and original pictures directly from the Circus. What a work of art and love! David Grundman showed us a bit of humor by modeling a out house/voting booth built as a two-story outhouse with corresponding stalls for politicians and voters to use one on top of the other... you get the idea. In the non-judged section, Giuseppe (moi) showed two what-ifs paint schemes by displaying two modern locomotives painted in SP Black Widow and Kodachrome versions. Photographs were well represented and this time they were displayed on the new photo racks which made their initial debut at this convention, replacing the antiquated and bulky old racks.

The judged contest was well represented in the photography, Arts & Crafts and models categories, showing a level of craftsmanship and innovation that has raised the bar for all three categories. In the models alone, there were twenty-one Merit Awards given out for outstanding craftsmanship which qualifies those models for the Achievement Program. Fantastic. Our own RED members did exceptionally well, as will be documented by the results to follow. We do have a cadre of talented individuals in our Division encompassing all aspects of the hobby. For the first time in many decades, all three "Best of Show" awards went to RED members. And now, ladies and gentlemen, here is the list of RED winners:

## In the model category:

Steve Lewis	steam loco	ingenuity award
David Grundman	structure/outhouse	levity award
David Grundman	structure	3 <sup>rd</sup> place
David Turner	maintenance of Way	1 <sup>st</sup> place
David Turner	freight car	1 <sup>st</sup> place & Merit award
David Turner	Passenger car	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Dave Croshere	display	2 <sup>nd</sup> place & Merit Award
Dave Croshere	structure	1 <sup>st</sup> place & Merit Award
Dave Ulmer	display	1 <sup>st</sup> place & Merit Award
Dave Ulmer	structure	1 <sup>st</sup> place & Merit Award
( I am beginning to think that if one wants to do well in Contest one should change their name to David )		
Gus Campagna	special contest	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Joseph DuVivier	portable layout	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Frank George	structure	2 <sup>nd</sup> place & Merit Award
Giuseppe Aymar	diesel	1 <sup>st</sup> place & Merit Award
Giuseppe Aymar	MOW	<b>Best of Show</b> Popular Vote & Merit Award

## In the Arts & Crafts category:

Wendy Peters	needlework original	<b>Best of Show</b>	Popular Vote
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## In the Photos category:

Carol Skold	photo	prototype color	3 <sup>rd</sup> place
Carol Skold	photo	model color	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
Carol Skold	photo	prototype black&white	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Marvin Schanck	photo	general rail subject	3 <sup>rd</sup> place
David Grundman	photo	working on the RR	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
Ed Merrin	photo	model color	<b>Best of Show</b>

Congratulations to all for participating in the Contest. Your effort not only rewarded you personally, but it rewarded all the Convention attendees who admired your work and hopefully took home with them a desire to emulate your efforts (or, at the very least, jump in and start their own modeling/photos/crafts adventure).

Go RED, Go RED



# Post “Enduring Rails 2018” Convention thoughts

By Giuseppe Aymar, MMR Convention Manager

As “Enduring Rails 2018”, our annual PCR Convention held in Rohnert Park, begins to fade from our memory, there is still time to reflect on what has transpired. The attendance was typical of a PCR Convention, give or take a few percentage points. The usual 15% of PCR members participates, while the remaining 85% does not. From all accounts, affirmed by comments made by attendees, this was a very successful endeavor. This particular Convention saw an impressive attendance by RED members, close to 1/3 of the total attendance; such display of unity made the hours of hard work for the past two years by the Convention Committee well worth the sweat and tears. The merging of forces between the PCR and the NWPRRHS allowed for an extra infusion of much-needed oxygen, bringing on board new material for clinics’ subjects, enlarging the scope of railroading through the lenses of historical perspectives, plus bringing into focus the idea that groups like the NWPRRHS can be accessed by NMRA members at any time. In fact, many members of the NWPRRHS are also NMRA members.

This Convention offered unprecedented access to outstanding local industries like Korbel Champagne Cellars and Sturgeon’s Mill (which is still operating, as a non-profit, after one hundred years, under steam power). God collaborated by allowing us to experience the true life in the woods under a torrential rain storm; the plot could not have been written any better. Inside the hotel a multitude of well-run clinics

kept everyone’s interest aglow; the array of clinicians was stupendous and the subject matter varied and lively. Exhibitions ranged from the “European Train Enthusiasts”, who displayed a layout featuring European operations, to an American standard switching layout (Fall Creek Branch) which utilizes the proper moves a prototypical crew makes when sorting, picking up or dropping off one or more cars. Basically the lesson here is there is more involved than just spotting a car on top of a magnetic ramp to disengage your Kadee coupler. Very interesting for those involved in true prototype operations. A full day of vendors was also a popular event, one which is not always offered at PCR Conventions. Through some fortuitous give and take with the Hotel’s management, we ended up with an exceptional large room capable of hosting the Registration desk, Company Store, Contest room and display layouts all under one roof. It created an eclectic yet electric atmosphere, a place for finding old friends or making new ones, where laughter abounded and oohs and aahs were heard coming from the Contest room while eager conventioners waited their turn to participate in the lessons imparted by the switching layout - all the while gawking at the beautiful rendition of a lumber RR displayed on three contiguous modules superbly brought to life by out-of-this-world lighting effects. The vibrancy in the room reminded me of my

*(Continued on page 8)*



R.E.D. members Steve Skold manning the Door Prize table and Clark Stewart and Dave Turner looking after the Company Store. Both photos by Giuseppe Aymar  
MMR

(Continued from page 7)

hometown's main square on market days where everything was happening all at once. When people left the friendly confines of the hotel, they often did so to participate in the many Operation Sessions scheduled at many beautiful layouts in the surrounding area, or to visit the same layouts - a dream come true for many. I heard that the Wednesday night mixer at the nearby Bear Republic Pub was indeed a smashing success, again reaffirming the value of Conventions in offering social interactions. A segment at the Convention was dedicated to the Boy Scouts; their program resulted in attaining a Railroad Merit Badge. They also were able to attend some part of the regular convention, visiting the Contest room and displays; and they were educated by attending programs designed to satisfy their requirements (and they liked what they saw). This was a great effort to give back to the community and lay out potential fertile ground for future modelers.

What is there to say about the Saturday night Banquet dinner and program? The food was representative of Sonoma County's gastronomical tastes, gracefully displayed buffet style. The program featured our NMRA President, Charlie Getz, doing the introduction for Dr. Ty Smith, PhD who presently manages the California Railroad Museum in Sacramento. Dr. Smith described the role the Museum is proactively undertaking in the field of education for our youngest generation. Typically the Banquet ends with awards given for the Contest's Arts & Crafts, Photography and Railroad models. This year saw an unprecedented number of models earning Merit Awards for excel-

lence in modeling, showing that the art of modeling is still alive and thriving.

"Thank you"s go to all Committee members who literally spent many, many hours working diligently to provide the best program for all of you. They made many sacrifices by attending meetings, making phone calls, not taking "no" for an answer, and pushing forward to make this an outstanding Convention. These are RED members - folks like you who decided to make a difference and become involved for the good of all. It is this sense of giving that has made, and continues to make, our Division so special.

Thank you Dave Croshere, Ron Kaiser, Carol and Steve Skold, Mary Moore-Campagna and Gus Campagna, Peter Barnes, Ernie Simard, Clark Stewart, Dave Grundman, Charlie Siebenthal, Dave Grenier, Steve Lewis, Greg Phillips, Seth Neumann, Jim Providenza, Scott Lockhart, Dave Turner, Janette McClelland, Al Merkrebs, Giuseppe Aymar. We also had a bevy of volunteers who made the Convention run on all cylinders: Anne Croshere, Pam Kaiser, Carol Alexander, Denni Baumer, Wendy Peters, Lin Kaplan, Hilding Larson, Joan Fleck, Dave Ulmer.

Above all, thank you to those who participated by attending the Convention. You made it all worthwhile. Just as a chef does his best in preparing an elegant meal to satisfy his patrons, so did the above fantastic individuals put forth their best effort to satisfy all the participants at "Enduring Rails 2018". Go RED go !!!



Fall Creek Branch layout. Switching clinic presented by Robert Pethoud. Judges enjoying lunch as thanks for giving their time to judge. Both pictures by Giuseppe Aymar MMR.



# SPOTLIGHT ON A LOCAL CLUB

## Coastal Valley Lines

### Coastal Valley Lines Model Railroad Club of Sonoma County, LTD

Coastal Valley Lines Model Railroad Club of Sonoma County, LTD (Coastal Valley Lines) is an association of novice-to-expert model railroaders from the Sonoma County area. We operate our digitally command controlled (DCC) HO scale modular railroad at public and private events, and also gather for clinics, work sessions and regular monthly meetings. Club members agree to use a set of standards (technical guidelines) for the construction of their modules. Members also follow standards to prepare their rolling stock (cars and locomotives) ensuring reliable operation to achieve the goal of having fun running trains! No prior model railroading experience is necessary and youth memberships are welcomed and encouraged!

Coastal Valley Lines is incorporated in the State of California, with its primary purpose being to educate the public about model railroading as a family hobby. Is a not-for-profit 501(c) 3 organization with elected officers and bylaws. The annual membership fees are \$67.00, which includes \$20.00 club membership dues and \$47.00 National Model Railroad Association membership. Our regular meetings are held the first Thursday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Sam's For Play Café, 2630 Cleveland Avenue in Santa Rosa. Arrive early and enjoy dinner with us! Please visit the Coastal Valley Lines website at [cvlrr.com](http://cvlrr.com) for additional information and photos.

The pictures below were taken in November of 2000 at an R.E.D. meet at Proctor Terrace School sponsored by the Coastal Valley lines. I recognize a few folks, Harold Mentzer, Noble Emery, Verne Alexander?, Joan Fleck?, Stu Benson? Do you know these folks from the past and the present? Who did the wonderful Petaluma Depot module? Is it still around? Who is the young man working the throttle?



## Back Page Notes:

I'll start where I left off last time; "Editing this newsletter is fun and I'd really like to share the fun with another RED member. If you are at all interested, let me or Scott Lockhart know and we can set you up."

I wrote a lot of the newsletter this time. I usually just cut the pages, but I felt that I wanted to tell more of the Enduring Rails story for those who did not get to the convention.

Missing from this edition is the 'Member Spotlight'. Nothing was submitted this time, and I did not push to get one done. I hope for the next issue that someone will send in a short story about a model railroader from our Division. It is good to get your name in print, either as the author or the subject.

See you on May 19th.  
Gus

## The CALLBOARD The official newsletter of the Redwood Empire Division PCR/NMRA



More of Giuseppe's pictures from the 2018 Enduring Rails PCR/NWPRRHS convention.

## Clerk's Report

## Dudley Peters

### Chief Clerk's Report

From a financial standpoint, and after the \$500 contribution to the Train museum in Sacramento, the current checkbook balance is \$4745.19. This includes the support check from the PCR.

Thanks to the unused door prizes from the convention, R.E.D. has received a number of car kits from the generous donations made to Enduring Rails. With this addition, we should be in good shape for door prizes at the RED.