



# SHORT LINE

Sierra Division \* Pacific Coast Region \* National Model Railroad Association

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The 2023 PCR & FRRS/WPRM Convention

Rails by the River

April 26 thru April 30, 2023 - Courtyard by Marriott

1782 Tribute Road - Sacramento, CA 95815

SEE PAGE 6 FOR COMPLETE DETAILS



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bership problems,

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Material may be reprinted with permis-  
sion.

Articles, photos, tips, or ideas are heart-  
ily encouraged and will be enthusiasti-  
cally accepted! The preferred format  
would be in Rich Text Format (RTF),  
with photos as JPEGs, but we will ac-  
cept any format (from a PC or Mac; MS  
Word, Simple Text, typed, or handwrit-  
ten). Send it to your editor by regular  
mail to Short Line, 2260 Cherry Glenn  
Ct., Chico, CA 95926 or by email to :

[chipmeriam@comcast.net](mailto:chipmeriam@comcast.net) If e-mailing  
put EDITOR in the subject line.

# From the Superintendent



**Dave Putnam,**  
Division Superintendent

As I write this update in mid-March, the hope for Spring-like weather still is not in evidence on the near horizon. We've certainly had our share of cold and grey days since ringing in the new year. It has definitely been "one of those years" when it comes to an abundance of below average temperatures, rain, and snow in the higher elevations throughout our division. While many of our outside activities and travel have more than likely been curtailed to some extent by the winter weather, I hope you've had a chance to get a little work in on your home layouts or possibly had a chance to accept an invite to participate in an operating session on a friend's layout if that's something you enjoy.

Many of us are still recovering from the stress, strains and restrictions caused by the global pandemic that we've been in the shadow of for well over three years. We've all probably been dealing with some level of social and economic woes and frustrations due to the crisis. I've managed to make it out to visit a few hobby shops and train shows over the past few months and it seems like many people in our hobby are now getting out and opening their wallets and purses to perform a little self-medicated "retail therapy" after being pent up for so long.

I've also been reading posts on various social media platforms that indicate that this recovery is not just isolated to our little corner of the world. Train shows have been reporting an uptick in attendance elsewhere and manufacturers have begun to open the flood gates by delivering quite a few new products that were previously promised and delayed in the supply chain. Retailer's shelves that were bare a year ago have started to fill back up with the products that are in demand.

I'm pleased to report that I've made progress on a couple of goals that I set out to achieve at the start of my two-year term. On the improved communications front, we now are sending out our membership-wide e-mails via the ConstantContact application. By using this delivery method, we now have almost instantaneous verification that our division generated e-mails are reaching the intended destinations in a timely fashion. We've also been able to identify a few bad e-mail addresses that had previously been bouncing but have now been corrected.

Another goal that I set out to attain at the start of my term was to make gains in membership. The leadership of all four divisions within the Pacific Coast Region (PCR) have been in the process of meeting and brainstorming ideas to make this happen. We've now had membership information tables at the International Rail Fair in Roseville last October, the Great Train Show at Cal Expo in January and the Golden State Historical Model Railroad Society train show at the Kern County Fairgrounds in Bakersfield in early March.

*Continued on page 3*

**Short Line**

*Superintendent" - from page 2*

I'm happy to report that we've managed to move the needle in the right direction by adding several new members to the PCR roster at these events. Several of them are located within the Sierra Division and I hope you can join me in welcoming them when you meet them.

The next big event on the radar is the annual PCR NMRA convention which will take place at the Courtyard By Marriott Hotel Cal Expo in Sacramento April 26th thru 30th. The Sierra Division and Feather River Railroad Society (FRRS) are co-hosting "Rails By The River 2023" and it is shaping up to be a great event. Division members Chip Meriam and Jim Collins are co-chairs for the convention on the NMRA side and along with their committee, they are diligently working on plans. Several of the NMRA and FRRS clinics being offered at the convention will also be made available in a live stream format for in-person and virtual registrants.

Our next in-person quarterly meeting that was originally scheduled for May 13th will instead take place during the PCR Convention at a time and place to be determined and membership will receive those details via e-mail. You will not be required to be registered for the convention to attend this meeting. Watch your e-mail for meeting details.

*Dave Peterson*

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## ITEMS OF NOTE



The virtual portion of the Rails By The River is open to anyone wishing to join us. Participants need not be NMRA members.

If you know a model railroader who is not an NMRA member, let him/her know about this opportunity to see what we're all about. This could be an effective recruiting tool!

The International Rail Fair organizing and steering committee includes two representatives from each of the sponsoring organizations: Sacramento Modular Railroaders, Roseville Roundhouse Model Railroad Club, European Train Enthusiasts - Sacramento, and the Sierra Division, PCR - NMRA.

Sierra Division currently has only one representative seated on the committee, so we're seeking another volunteer. If you might be interested in helping plan this great event, please contact Tom Campbell [caprikar21@gmail.com](mailto:caprikar21@gmail.com)

or Chip Meriam [chipmeriam@comcast.net](mailto:chipmeriam@comcast.net)



# From the Editor

## I Guess It's Worth Repeating

From the July 2015 issue of the *Short Line*.

*I suppose one of the traits of an editor is a need to check back through the archives to see if a theme or idea has been used in the recent past – lest he might create boredom amongst the readership by repeating something just published.*

*This month I will plead “guilty” to the former. I looked back through issues of The Short Line, from 2007 forward, just to be certain that my comments would not be more of the same old thing - again. Well, I discovered that the past two editors, Gary Ray and Donald Schmitt, penned similar requests repeatedly: “Please contribute pictures, stories, how-to articles, etc.”*



Chip Meriam,  
*Short Line* Editor

There, I did it again. Just as in July of 2015, I looked back at eight years of messages from the editors of the Sierra Division *Short Line*. But this time, I found no plea for pictures, stories, or articles. The only mention of such a request is the one noted above; oddly enough, eight years ago.

This time, though, I am going to make such an appeal:

Preparing this little quarterly publication is a blast. I usually get the first-hand scoop on what's happening in the division. I have the pleasure of editing the occasional how-to article. And I get to manipulate various graphics. But there is another aspect of this job. I also have to create content. For the most part, I am more than happy to do so. But after awhile, the newsletter starts to sound too much like me.

So, let's see what we can do about that, shall we?

These pages are yours. I know you have ideas, skills, and creations to share. This is a perfect forum for that sharing. Send me your short (or long) articles and photos. If you're unsure of yourself, send them anyway. Together we can make it worthy of our membership's reading time. Here are four good reasons to jump in:

- 1.) It's fun and gratifying.** Whether you're aware of it or not, probably one of the reasons your hobby is model railroading is because you are a creative person. Clearly, creating an article for publication is a creative endeavor. So doing so is a gratifying activity.
- 2.) You really learn your subject.** The best way to sharpen your understanding or expertise is to explain a process to others. “How To” articles are just that – explaining to your audience what you did and how they can do the same thing themselves.
- 3.) Writing serves your chosen hobby.** One of the greatest resources we enjoy as modelers is the wealth of knowledge shared in the hobby press. That knowledge doesn't just materialize on its own. Somebody has to expend the effort to communicate their knowledge – through printed media or otherwise.
- 4.) You gain the recognition of others in the hobby.** If you're prolific enough, the NMRA will recognize your work with an Achievement Program Certificate, Model Railroad Author.

For a great opportunity to explore this further, come to my clinic at the upcoming PCR convention. I will be discussing “Amateur Authorship” on Saturday morning, April 29, from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM. I look forward to seeing you there!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chip Meriam".

The Pacific Coast Region and Sierra Division was well represented at “The Great Train Show” at Cal Expo in late January and again at the Golden Empire Historical & Modeling Society train show that took place at the Kern County Fairgrounds in Bakersfield during the first weekend in March. Both shows had attendance numbers that were quite a bit higher than 2022 shows. Volunteer members from all four divisions in the region helped staff PCR’s membership information table at both shows. Between both shows, we signed up 40 new members. , many of them are within the Sierra Division.



Sierra Division Chief Clerk, David Fryman, helped staff the PCR booth during The Great Train Show at Cal Expo

*(photo: Dave Putnam)*



Sierra Division member, Jeff Merrill, shows a younger attendee some of the finer points on the BAZ BoyZ (NorCalz) club's modular layout at the Great Train Show at Cal Expo

*(photo: Dave Putnam)*



“The Great Train Show” at Cal Expo attracted many attendees

*(photo: Dave Putnam)*



Clinics Presented by Pacific Coast Region-NMRA and by Feather River Rail Society

Special OP-SIG Group Sessions

Layout Tours

Operating Sessions

Prototype and Local Interest

Excursions

Non-Rail Activities

Model Contest and AP Judging

Awards Banquet with Keynote Speaker, Steve Miller

Annual PCR Membership Meeting

**[Convention Website Home Page](#)**

Find Everything Here! Just "ctrl-click".

**[Convention Registration](#)**

**April 26 thru April 30, 2023**

Register now. It's easy! Just "ctrl-click" the link to the left and you're on your way to Sacramento!

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## CLINICS

Rails by the River has scheduled “tons” of clinics; perhaps one of the largest slates ever offered at a PCR convention. You should be able to find several that appeal to you and fit your needs. Use this link to view the exhaustive list.

<http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2023/clinics.html>

## NON-RAILS

This year's Rails by the River 2023 Joint PCR/FRRS Convention will feature a program for the Non-Rail attendees. All Non-Rail convention attendees are cordially invited to visit the Non-Rails Hospitality Room and enjoy the fun, fellowship, and activities. Further details can be found [here](http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2023/nonrails.html).

## HOBOS



As we have done at PCR conventions for some 55 years now, Hobos will gather for breakfast during the convention. This year we will meet at:

The Toasted Rooster Cafe, 1650 Fulton Ave., Sacramento, CA 95825. More information:

<http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2023/hobos.html>

## LAYOUT TOURS

There will be several home and club layouts open for visitors at various times during the convention.

Owner	Layout	Scale	Distance	Session Duration
Mike Andrews	SP WP, & SN in the Sacramento Valley	O	45.2 mi.	Saturday, 4/29, 10am-3pm
Bill Burg	Sacramento Northern Beltline	HO	3.8 mi.	Friday, 4/28, 6pm-10pm
Phil Gulley	Union Pacific & Summit County RR	HO	31.6 mi.	Thursday, 4/28, 5pm-10pm
George Hardy	Spokane Portland & Seattle California Sub	HO	17.5 mi.	Thursday, 4/28, 5pm-10pm
Dave Houston	Southern Pacific	HO	21 mi.	Thursday, 4/28, 5pm-10pm
Gene Kuhn	Southern Pacific Donner Pass	HO	47.5 mi.	Saturday, 4/29, 10am-4pm
Larry Moll	Northern CA Lumber & Mining	HOn3	26 mi.	Thursday, 4/28, 5pm-10pm
Steve Redeker	Hetch Hetchy Railroad	On30	17.9 mi.	Friday, 4/28, 5pm-10pm
Sacramento MRHS	SPWP and large HOn3	HO, HOn3	4.2 mi.	Friday, 4/28, 6pm-10pm
Walt Schedler	SP's Shasta Division Dunsuir to K Falls	HO	67 mi.	Saturday, 4/29, 11am-5pm
Oseville Roundhouse	Donner Pass HO, U-shaped N scale	HO, N	13.8 mi.	Friday, 4/28, 12pm-8pm

This list is somewhat fluid, so keep checking back here:

<http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2023/layouts.html>



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## The Convention Hotel

Courtyard by Marriott  
1782 Tribute Road  
Sacramento, CA 95815

### **Hotel Rooms for Saturday sold out - UPDATE: now ALL rooms**

The Marriott has informed us that all hotel rooms for ALL days at the at the convention rate have been booked. They say there are still some rooms at the regular rate available.

[Courtyard by Marriott Sacramento Cal Expo](#)

### **Other Hotels Near the Convention**

Marriott has two other facilities on the same property:

[Fairfield Inn Sacramento Cal Expo](#) 916-920-5300

[TownePlace Suites](#) 916-920-5400

The next closest hotels are:

[Hilton DoubleTree by Hilton](#) 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA 95815. 916-929-8855

[Hilton Sacramento- Arden West](#) 2200 Harvard St, Sacramento, CA 95815. 916-922-4700

[Extended Stay America](#) 2100 Harvard St, Sacramento, CA 95815. 916-921-9942

[Holiday Inn Express](#) 2224 Auburn Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95821. 916-923-1100

[Hampton Inn](#) 2230 Auburn Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95821. 916-927-2222



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# Master Schedule

**NOTE: Traditional lunch and dinner breaks not shown.**

All times are estimates only. Check back often for more accurate times.

## WEDNESDAY, April 26

- 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM – Registration Desk open
- 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM – Contest Room open
- 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM – Non-Rail Hospitality Room open
- 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM – Welcome Reception - The Terrace



## THURSDAY, April 27

- 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM – Registration Desk open
- 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM – Contest Room open
- 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM – Non-Rail Hospitality Room open
- 9:00 AM - 9:30 PM – Clinics
- 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM – PCR Board of Directors Meeting
- 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM – Layout Tours

## FRIDAY, April 28

- 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM – Registration Desk open
- 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM – Contest Room open
- 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM – Non-Rail Hospitality Room open
- 9:00 AM - 10:00 PM – Clinics
- 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM – Layout Tours
- 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM – Non-Rail Lunch
- 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM – PCR Bingo Night

## SATURDAY, April 29

- 6:00 AM - 8:00 AM – Hobo Breakfast
- 9:00 AM - Completion – Contest Room closed for Judging
- 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM – Registration Desk open
- 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM – Clinics
- 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM – Non-Rail Hospitality Room open
- 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM – Pickup Contest Entries, AFTER judging is completed; also after Banquet
- 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM – Social Hour
- 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM – Banquet & Awards Presentation
- 9:00 PM - 10:00 PM – Pickup ALL Contest Entries by 10:30 PM

## SUNDAY, April 30

- 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM – PCR Breakfast
- 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM – PCR Membership Meeting

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## Keynote Speaker - Saturday Evening Banquet



Steve Miller is a retired transportation analyst for the Department of Rail at the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

Steve worked for the Western Pacific as a summer job in 1965, after his first year of college. He spent three years in the Army, then ran a model railroad shop in Southern California in the 70s. After that, he returned to school, graduating from San Diego State University in 1978 with a degree in Sociology. He worked for Greyhound in the late 70s. In 1980, he went to work for Caltrans as a Transportation Planner in the Division of Mass Transportation. In 1988, he became the Amtrak Thruway bus coordinator. In 1990, The Division of Rail was created and Steve worked there until he retired in 2007. In addition to managing the Amtrak bus network, he was also involved with passenger information, including Amtrak California Timetables and the posted information at bus stops and train stations.

Steve joined Feather River Rail Society a couple of years ago and is active in several other organizations including National Railway Historical Society, Central Coast Railway Club, Northern Pacific Railway Historical Association and the La Mesa Model Railroad Club which has built a model of Tehachapi Pass in the San Diego Model Railroad Museum.



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### Short Sleeve Polo Shirts With

### “Rails by the River” Logo.

Available directly from Daylight Sales.

**\$31.95 to \$38.95 depending up-  
on size.**

[https://www.daylightsales.net/  
product-category/rails-by-the-](https://www.daylightsales.net/product-category/rails-by-the-)



### Commemorative Car by AccuRail®- 40' AAR Single Door Boxcar with decals *(to be applied separately).*

Available Through the Convention Website or At The Convention Company Store

**\$25.00 per car**

### Rails by the River Convention Virtual Coverage

- For those who are not able to make it to Sacramento for an in-person experience, many of the FRRS and NMRA clinics will be available for viewing at our on-line virtual platform.
- The virtual clinics will feature a high-quality video feed of selected clinics as well as coverage from the contest room throughout the convention.
- [Registration](#) for a Virtual Fare has been returned to \$50.00!
- A post clinic "breakout room" will be available to virtual attendees for Q & A with many of our convention clinicians as well as "Birds of a Feather" sessions
- The convention virtual content will also be available to all who register at Full, Express and Day Fare levels.
- The virtual coverage will also include coverage of the contest entries.

## SIERRA DIVISION

Next Meeting: April 29  
Sacramento

*Time To Be Announced  
AT THE PCR CONVENTION*

### April Contest Categories:

*Modeling: Steam, Traction, and Self-Propelled Cars*

*Photo: Trains In Action*

*Railroad Arts & Crafts*

## TIMETABLE

April 29, 2023  
Sacramento, CA

Aug 12, 2023  
Carson City/Reno

Oct 14, 2023  
Stockton/Modesto

Feb 10, 2024  
Sacramento



## SHORT LINE

Jun 10 for the Jul Issue

Sep 10 for the Oct Issue

Dec 10 for the Jan Issue

Mar 10 for the Apr Issue



The 2023 PCR & FRRS/  
WPRM Convention

## Rails by the River

April 26 thru April 30, 2023  
Courtyard by Marriott  
1782 Tribute Road  
Sacramento, CA 95815

Sierra Division continues to have online meets via ZOOM. Future online meets will be held the second Saturday of each month when an in-person meet is not scheduled.

### UPCOMING ONLINE MEETS

(all beginning at 10:30 AM)

April 8, 2023

June 10, 2023

July 8, 2023

September 9, 2023

November 11, 2023

December 9, 2023



### August 22 - 25, 2023 Texas Express 2023

Gaylord Texan Hotel, 1501 Gaylord Trail,  
Grapevine, TX



# February Meet Sacramento



The Sierra Division February meet followed a long-standing tradition of enjoying a morning operating session on the HO, Standard Gauge, Sierra Central Railroad layout of the Sacramento Model Railroad Historical Society (SMRHS). SMRHS has been hosting this event for at least the past eight years, with the exception of the **COVID PERIOD**.

As usual, orientation began around 9:00– 9:30 AM with the live operating session running until about 11:30. For two hours, manifest freight trains, peddlers, locals, and thru passenger trains occupied the various routes depicting the line between Oakland and Sacramento, and Oakland and Keddie-Quincy-Reno. It was a busy morning with the operators working up a healthy appetite. But not to worry, the good fellows at SMRHS came through with their grilled cheeseburgers, chips, and sodas after the last run of the day. Our grateful thanks to SMRHS for a fine event.



Ethan Doty parked the Shasta Daylight at the Oakland Mole after completing his fourth (and final) run of the day.



Sierra Division Superintendent, Dave Putnam (L) presents SMRHS President, Mike Roque, with a certificate of appreciation. (Note Table Mountain in the background.)



Peddler freight, with WP Geep 731 on the point, snakes past the Marysville Cemetery (visible at the left edge of the photo).



Brandon Salas at 12th Street Yard - Sacramento



Dispatcher for the day, Brian Witt, at the CTC board. (we *THINK* he's awake.)



Silverstreak Bayless (L) and Etan Doty in close quarters near Oroville.

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# February Meet Sacramento



Dave Putnam was able to arrange a special, admission-free day at the California State Railroad Museum. This one-day perk was available to all Pacific Coast Region members, so several Coast Division people came in from the Bay Area by train. In all, we had 58 PCR members visit. We all had the afternoon to roam about the museum and take in the impressive interpretive exhibits. We are truly blessed to have this facility right here in our own division!



SP Cab-forward Mallet as seen from “up above”.



**FRUIT GROWERS EXPRESS  
REFRIGERATOR CAR NO. 35832**

Refrigerator cars, introduced in 1877, made California fruits and vegetables available from coast to coast, transforming the state's agricultural economy. Thousands of wood refrigerator cars were built until the 1920s when mechanically-cooled cars gradually replaced them. A typical steel-frame, wood-sheathed car of the 1900s and 1910s, No. 35832 carried perishable cargo throughout the country for nearly 40 years.

Built	Fruit Growers Express Co., Indiana Harbor, Indiana, 1904
Length	44' 7"
Weight	21,800 lbs.
Capacity	10,000 lbs.

Preserved by Railway & Locomotive Historical Society, Pacific Coast Chapter  
 Returned to 1978 appearance by California State Railroad Museum

1. Preserved by the Society, 1974, Pacific, 1988

2. Pacific Southern Railroad, circa 1910

3. California State Railroad Museum, 1978, Pacific, 1988

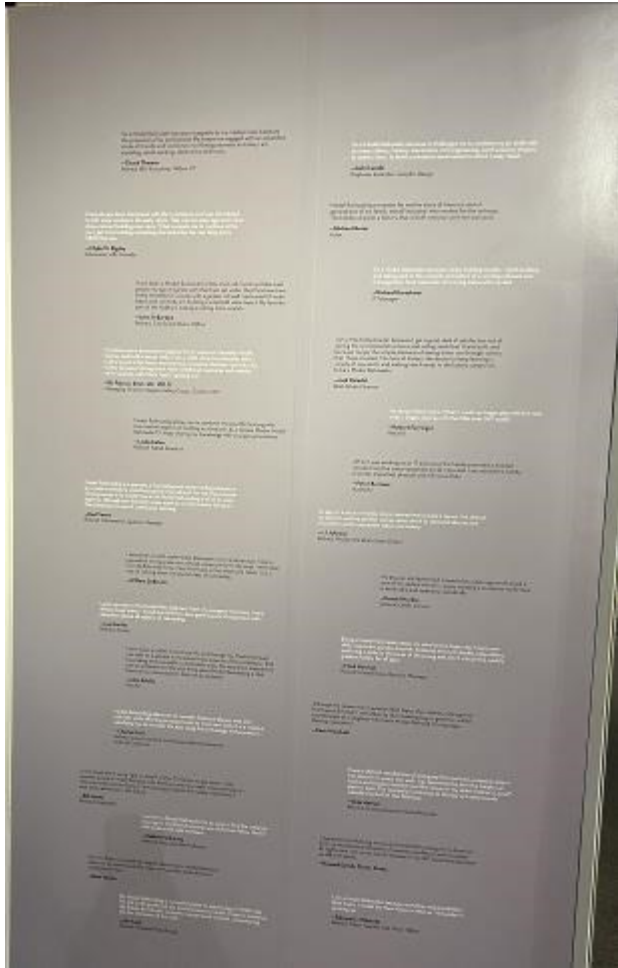
Fruit Growers Express in the “Days of Ice.”

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# February Meet Sacramento



The main feature of our visit to the museum was the newly opened Magic of Scale Model Railroading exhibit. For many of us, this was our first view of this amazing display, which is sponsored by the National Model Railroad Association.



The driving force behind the NMRA exhibit was Charlie Getz, past NMRA President and member of the Pacific Coast Region. At the outset, Charlie put out a plea to the membership asking for short explanations of how model railroading became their chosen hobby. The responses are posted on a large wall plaque near the entrance to the exhibit (left). There's even one from a Sierra Division member (below).

I have a distinct recollection of seeing my first real train, probably when I was about two years old, and I was fascinated by how the freight car trucks and couplers looked "just like" those on my older brother's Lionel® electric train. The fascination continues to this day as I continuously rekindle the thrill of that little boy.

—Chip Meriam  
Retired, County Assessor-Clerk/Recorder

*Continued on page 16*

# February Meet Sacramento

## SIERRA DIVISION MEETING



The Stanford Gallery Sits Adjacent to the CSRM

There was a short Division Business Meeting held at the Stanford Gallery next door to the museum. The meeting lasted only 28 minutes, which might be some sort of record for brevity. Following the meeting was a show and tell session with a presentation by Dave “Silverstreak” Bayless.



Michael Eldridge (R) ponders a financial question as Dave Putnam looks on.



An attentive group gives audience during “Show ‘n Tell”.



Dave Bayless explains the finer points of boxcar ends.



The newest Sierra Division member, Stephen Swan, introduces himself.



**Have you joined the NMRA Interchange? It's the newest tool to help you connect with other members, gain knowledge and learn to modeling techniques. The Interchange is hosted on the Discord application which is available for Windows, Apple OS, Android and Apple devices. See instructions below for signing up.**

## Joining the NMRA Interchange

Speed Muller

IT Manager, NMRA

Have you joined the Interchange yet? If not, follow these steps to get connected!

1. Go to [nmra.org/nmra-interchange](https://nmra.org/nmra-interchange)
2. It will ask you to log in to the NMRA website if you're not already logged in. If you are not registered with the NMRA website yet, now's the time to do it. Click the "Need a username? Register now" button, and get set up. Use the email address on file in the NMRA membership system (probably the one where you got this eBulletin). The system will email you a link to set your password.
3. Now you should be in the [NMRA Interchange](#) page. If not, click this link.
4. Click on [Member Info](#) in the top right corner and scroll down get your exact Member ID. You'll need that later.
5. Read through the page and then follow the "Interchange Server Invite" link at the bottom. This is a special link just for you and will look something like <https://discord.gg/xxxxxxx>
6. You will be taken to Discord (the platform that hosts the NMRA Interchange) where you will be prompted to sign in, if you already have an account there, or prompted to register, if not. If you need instructions for creating an account or logging into Discord they can be found [here](#).
7. Once you accept the NMRA Interchange Invite, and you are logged in, you will land in **#the-lobby** with a message on what to do next.
8. We suggest that you read and agree to the **#rules** first. Just click on **#rules** and then click on "thumbs up". Then click on **#the-lobby** again to do the most important step.
9. Discord and the NMRA need to check with each other, in order to verify that you are a current NMRA member with an email on file. You start the process with the **/onboard** command. Now, this is very sensitive to the type of device you are using, so just type the first few letters **/onb** at the bottom where you see a + sign in a circle. It will complete the command for you in a pop-up just above that. Click on the **/onboard** command. Add your membership number (6 characters followed by a space and then two more characters) just as you noted in step 4. Example: `/onboard input: 123456 0A`
10. Discord and the NMRA computers will have a chat, and then you will receive an email containing a **/clearance** command. That's your entry ticket. Copy and paste the whole line into **#the-lobby** (at the + sign again). Example: `/clearance input: 654321`
11. You're in! You will not have to do any of this again. If anything derails, you'll get a message telling you what to do next, and we also have Moderators in the Interchange standing by to help.
12. If all went well, you'll now see more than 350 channels (those # things). We suggest you start by going to **#introduce-yourself** and then scroll up to **#the-workbench** to see what others have done and shared! Then find your Region and Division and say "hello" there. And then start participating and enjoy!



**Walt's**  
Trains & Electronics

**FB: Walt's Trains and Electronics**  
Email: [waltstrains@yahoo.com](mailto:waltstrains@yahoo.com)

1140 3rd Street - Colusa, CA 95932

Open: Wednesday - Saturday, 9-5

Monday-Tuesday, by appointment

408-431-1660

## Full Service Train Shop for Your Hobby Needs

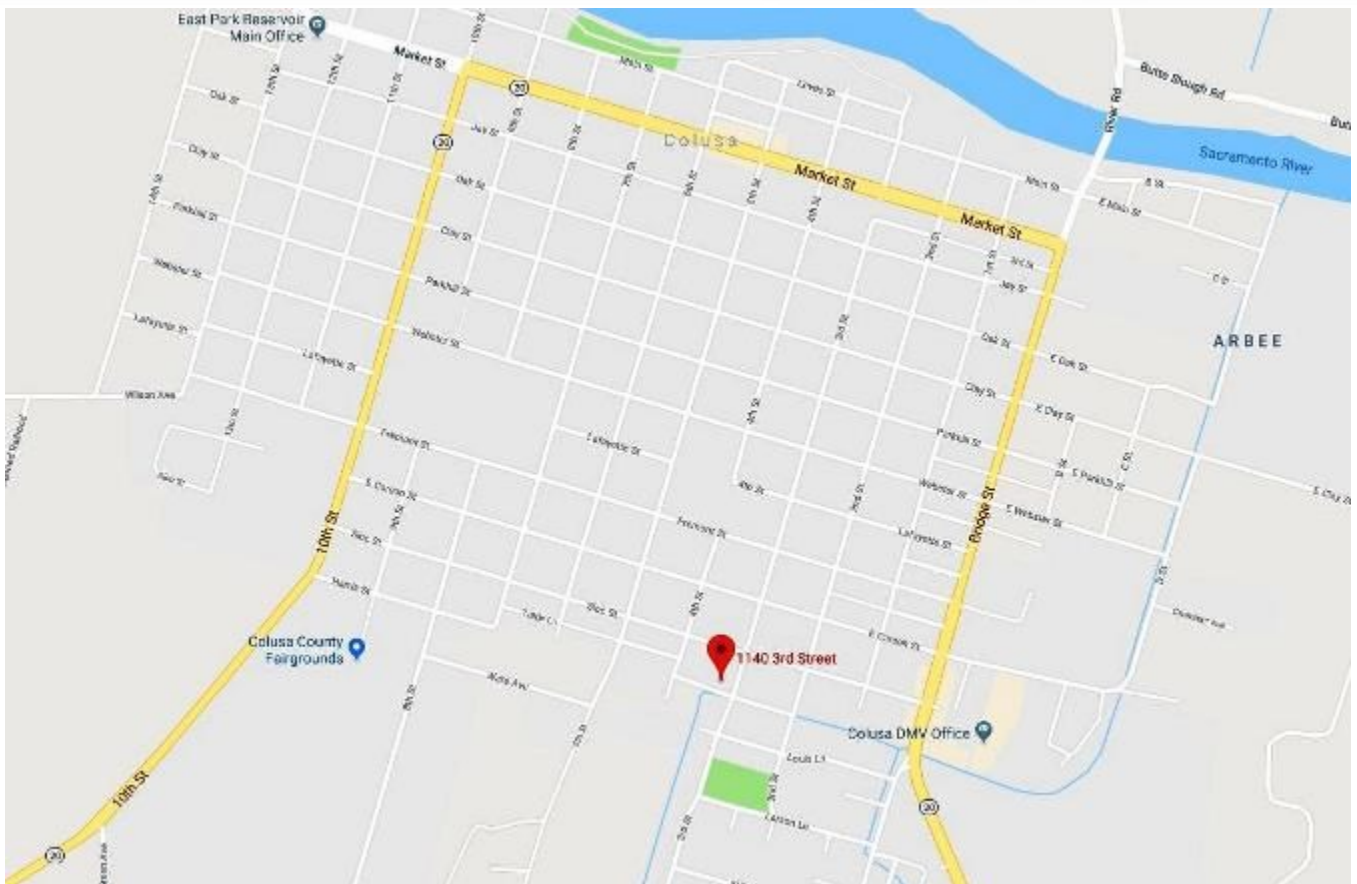
Over 3,000 line items available - plus Estate items

Will special order for you

Discount prices O, On30, HO, HOOn3, N scale equipment and supplies



Visit our large 1,200 Sq. Ft.  
Store Display Layout





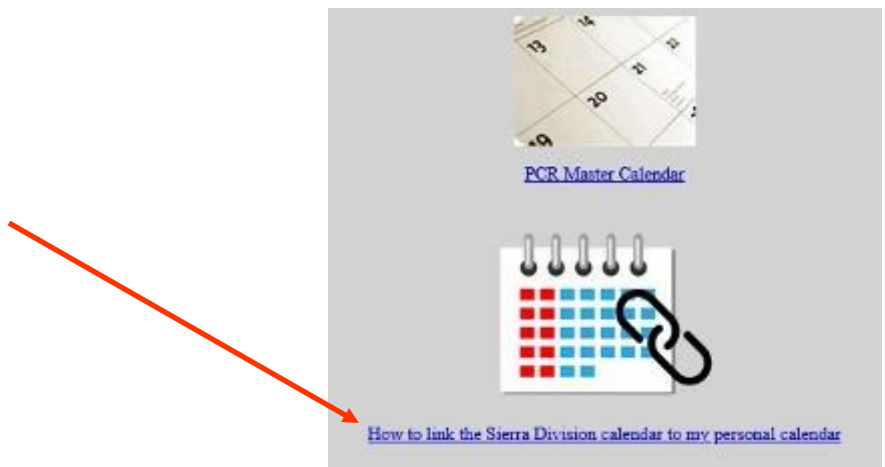
**PACKRATT TRAINS & TOYS**  
Matt Padgett

546 Kentucky Street - Gridley, CA 95948  
530-797-9264    [packratt1@gmail.com](mailto:packratt1@gmail.com)

Open Wednesday thru Friday 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM and Saturday 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

If you would like for Sierra Division events to appear in your personal calendar, you can link to the calendar on the Sierra Division website. This will work if you use Google Calendar, Outlook, or Apple's Calendar app. Go to the Sierra Division website, <http://www.pcrnmra.org/sierra>, and click on Calendar. On the right you will see a link to a page that describes how to link to the Sierra Division calendar from your calendar. After that, when events are placed on the Sierra Division calendar they will automatically appear in your calendar also.

Questions or need help?    [meldridge2000@gmail.com](mailto:meldridge2000@gmail.com)



The Sierra Division, PCR-NMRA is making available to Sierra Division members a “kit” containing the necessary tools and instructions to complete the part 3 requirements of the NMRA Model Railroad Engineer – Civil Certificate. More information on the requirement is at: [www.nmra.org/civil](http://www.nmra.org/civil)

#### The Kit:

The kit includes tools and templates sufficient to create the following (you only need to construct 3):

- HO Scale #5, Code 83 Right-hand turnout
- HO Scale #5, Code 83 Left-hand turnout
- HO Scale #5, Code 83 Single crossover
- HO Scale #5, Code 83 Double crossover
- HO Scale #5, Code 83 Crossing 14 degree

#### How the System Works:

- Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis. All reservations will be for a calendar month. Requests must be sent to [louiesqd@att.net](mailto:louiesqd@att.net).
- The kit will be shipped via UPS on the first day of the month. Arrival should be within 2-3 days.
- The member may use the kit for what should be, **about** three weeks.
- The member must ship the kit back, postage pre-paid by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. This will allow us time to check and clean the kit and still send it out again on the first of the month. Zip ties and address information will be included in the kit. Return the kit to:  
**Lou Anderson, 100 Buddy Drive, Woodland, CA 95776.**

#### Reservations:

The rental fee and deposit must be received by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.

The rental fee for the kit is \$25.00 by separate check. This will cover the cost of shipping the kit to the member, cleaning costs and additional packaging as needed.

A deposit in the amount of \$500.00 must be included by separate check. This check will **NOT** be deposited unless the kit is not returned. When the kit is returned, the check will be destroyed.

Mail both checks, made payable to the Sierra Division, to:

**Lou Anderson, 100 Buddy Drive, Woodland, CA 95776.**

#### Preparation/Supplies:

Be prepared. Have all supplies ready and on-hand in advance of the arrival of the kit. You will need:

Micro-Engineering Code 83 NON-weathered rail, have extra on hand.

Small diameter solder.

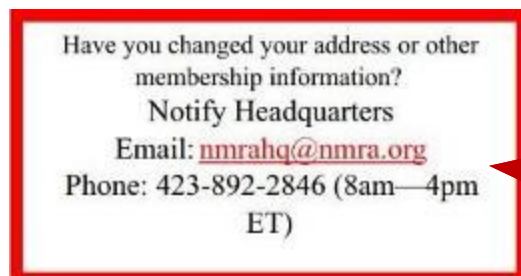
Soldering iron, min 35 watts.

Instructions and a DVD are including in the kit or you can go to <https://www.handlaidtrack.com/> for more information.

#### Responsibilities:

- The member is responsible for loss and all damage to the contents of the kit. If you break it, or damage it beyond further use, notify us immediately at [louiesqd@att.net](mailto:louiesqd@att.net). Be prepared to include a check in the amounts listed above to cover the cost of replacement.
- Please notify us as soon as possible if you wish to cancel your reservation so that we can offer it to another member.

If you have questions, please direct them to Lou Anderson at [louiesqd@att.net](mailto:louiesqd@att.net). or Chip Meriam at [chipmeriam@comcast.net](mailto:chipmeriam@comcast.net).



**IMPORTANT !!!!**

# Around And About



Norfolk Southern #4567, a GE AC44C6M rebuilt May 2022 at Wabtec-Ft. Worth from GE Dash 9-44CW #9371 (original build May 2019). Seen here at 8:03 AM, Saturday, March, 2023, at W. 3rd Steet, running past Chico, CA Amtrak Station.

*(photo: Lorri Meriam)*



NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, INC.

**Wow! Did you know there's a new  
NMRA Member Benefit?**

**It's the NMRA Partner Program!**

**Model railroad manufacturers are partnering with the NMRA to offer discounts to NMRA members.**

**Current members log in to [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) . At the Members Menu, go to the NMRA Partnership Page to see who's on the list, discounts offered, and how to order. New Partners are coming on board every month, so check back often.**

**If you're not yet a member, here's another great reason to join and get more fun from your hobby with a membership in the world's largest model railroad organization.**

**[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)**

**See Partial List Of Partners On The Next Page**



## Partnership Program

The companies listed below give discounts to NMRA members when orders are placed using a special discount code. You can find descriptions of these companies and their products, links to their websites, and the discount codes on our Partnership Page at [nmra.org/partnerships](https://www.nmra.org/partnerships). Remember you need to be logged into our site as a member to see the codes! Go to [nmra.org/user/register](https://www.nmra.org/user/register) to register your name on the website.

Bear Creek Model Railroad  
CatzPaw Innovations  
Clever Models LLC  
CMR Products  
Daylight Sales  
Deepwoods Software  
Deluxe Materials  
Digikeijs  
Dwarvin  
East Coast Circuits  
Feight Studios  
Gatorfoam  
Great Decals!  
Green Frog Productions  
Hot Wire Foam Factory  
K.I.S.S. Method  
LaBelle Woodworking  
LARC Products

Logic Rail Technologies  
MAC Rail  
Micro-Mark  
Mine Mount Models  
Miniprints  
MinuteMan Scale Models  
Model Railroad Benchwork  
Model Train Catalogue  
Modelers Decals & Paint  
Motrak Models  
MRC (Model Rectifier Corp)  
Nick and Nora Designs  
Northlandz  
NScaleWorks  
Old West Scenery  
Ram Track  
RR-CirKits  
Rusty Stumps

Scale Model Plans  
Scalecoat Paint  
Scenery Solutions  
Showcase Miniatures  
Team Track Models  
The N Scale Architect  
The Old Depot Gallery  
Tichy Train Group  
Touch of the Brush  
Train Installations  
Train Show, Inc.  
TRAINZ  
Trainmasters TV/MRH Store  
TSG Multimedia  
UGEARS  
Unreal Details  
USA Airbrush Supply  
WiFi Model Railroad

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## National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

### Renewal Notice

Name:			
Address:			
City:	State/Country	Zip:	
Phone:	Birth Date:	Scale:	
Email:	Occupation:		

Membership	1 Year	2 Year	Total
<b>Member</b> - All rights & benefits as well as the digital NMRA magazine access.	\$68.00	\$136.00	
<b>Member with Printed Magazine Subscription</b> – All rights & benefits, digital NMRA Magazine access and the Printed Magazine.	\$92.00	\$184.00	
<b>Family</b> – Spouse or minor child of above member. No magazine, no voting rights, not allowed to hold office.	\$10.00	\$20.00	
<b>Sustaining</b> – Mandatory for group memberships (Clubs, Business, Associations). All rights & benefits, digital NMRA Magazine access and the Printed NMRA magazine.	\$120.00	\$240.00	
<b>Student</b> – Between the ages of 19-25 years of age. All rights & benefits, digital NMRA magazine access.	\$40.00	\$80.00	
<b>Membership</b>			\$
<b>General Donation</b>			\$
<b>Merchandise</b>			\$
<b>Region Subscription</b>			\$
<b>Total</b>			\$

**Thank you for being a member of the NMRA!** It is extremely important to have your current email address on file. This is used for access to the member only section, turntable, ballots, voting, annual donation statements, online renewals and communication. Please be sure to note your email address below.

Email:

**Make Checks Payable to NMRA. We accept MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express.**

Credit Card Number:

Expire Date:     CVV Code:    Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



NMRA Merchandise				
Item	Size (Select Size: Circle)	Qty	Price (S/H Included)	Total
Blue Denim Shirt	S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL		\$50.00	
Black Golf Shirt	S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL		\$50.00	
Grey Golf Shirt	S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL		\$50.00	
Khaki Ball Cap			\$22.00	
Grey Ball Cap			\$22.00	
Black Ball Cap			\$22.00	
Turnout Template HO Scale			\$5.00	
Turnout Template O Scale			\$5.00	
HO Scale Std. Gage			\$7.00	
Sn3 Scale Std. Gage			\$7.00	
O Scale Std. Gage			\$21.00	
On3 Scale Std. Gage			\$7.00	
ON30 Clearance Gage			\$18.00	
N Scale Std. Gage			\$7.00	
N Scale Clearance Gage			\$15.00	
Railway Track & Maintenance Book			\$45.00	
Lumber Book			\$35.00	
Post War Freight Car Fleet Book			65.00	
Concrete Book			\$35.00	
Porter Steam Locomotive Book			\$18.00	
Steel Book			\$50.00	
Freight Terminals & Trains Book			\$45.00	
<b>Merchandise Total</b>			\$	
Region Subscriptions				
If you do not see your region listed, there is no charge for region subscription! Most regions offer the subscription online on the website.				
21 Northeastern Region	\$12.00	28 Midwest Region	\$6.00	
23 North Central Region	\$10.00	33 Southeastern Region	\$10.00	
26 Pacific Coast Region	\$8.00	36 Sunshine Region	\$12.00	

If your address information on the front of this notice needs updating, please let us know.

Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:		

P. O. Box 1328  
Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328  
Email: HQ@NMRA.ORG  
423-892-2846