



The Semaphore



On Saturday, January 26th 2008 the club meeting will be held at 10:00 am, at Boney's Marketplace, 1820 Oceanside Blvd., Oceanside, CA. 92054

Members, guests and visitors are invited.

North County Model Railroad Society (NCMRS)

Volume 4, 01

Special points of interest:

President's Message by Dick Miller

2007 in Review

It's been a great year for our railroad club. A lot has been accomplished during this, our third year at Boney's. We have a lot to be proud of. Visitors to our club have been very complementary. Our membership has almost doubled since, so we are doing a lot of things right.

Financially our club is in good shape. A good part of our financial health is due to E-bay sales of donated model railroad equipment. We have been fortunate to have received numerous donations from members and outside sources during the year.

Construction on the railroad continues. Peninsula A is almost complete. B is progressing nicely. The buildings on peninsula C at Morrow and Russell are beginning to find permanent locations and there is a mostly complete road between the two towns. The John Allen steel trestle at the tip of C is operational and the surrounding scenery is progressing. This scene will definitely be a "WOW" when it is completed.

Electrical work is moving forward with additional inset turnout control boxes being installed on peninsulas B and C.

There has been a real improvement in the condition of our club rolling stock over the year thanks to a very capable mechanical / maintenance department. This makes for much improved formal and informal operation sessions.

On the subject of operation sessions we have had a formal operation session on the second Tuesday of each month

during the year. If you have not participated in one of these sessions I suggest you do so. It's great fun!

This year we produced a procedure for NCE throttle operation and a second procedure that requires members to demonstrate operation proficiency on the railroad. By the time you read this you will have received a draft copy of the new Operating Standards for Rolling Stock which we hope to approve early in the New Year.

In December we moved our demonstration layout (Show-N-Go) to Del Mar for a model railroad show. Our "Kid friendly" layout was a big hit again this year.

We are in the planning stage of a 900 sq. ft expansion which will allow additional work space and a future addition to our railroad.

If you are a new member and would like to get more involved in the club, please talk to me or any senior member. There are plenty of things to do in the club. We need help in all phases of construction, as well as administration and committee jobs that are necessary to keep the club running. We want and need your participation.

So members, pat yourselves on the back for a great year. From what I see we are going to have a very active 2008.

I think the best for our club is yet to come.

All aboard
Dick Miller

Work Schedule

Every Thursday and Saturday are work days at the clubhouse. There are plenty of tasks to be performed.

Visitor Schedule

Every Thursday 3-8:30 PM, Saturday 9:30 AM - 4 PM are the visitor hours at the NCMRS Clubhouse.

Operation Schedule

2nd Tuesday of the month
Setup time 5:30 pm
Run Time 6:00 pm—8:30 pm

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2007 IN REVIEW There is one thing about the hobby of model trains and that is it beckons you on to a never ending horizon of creativity and fun.

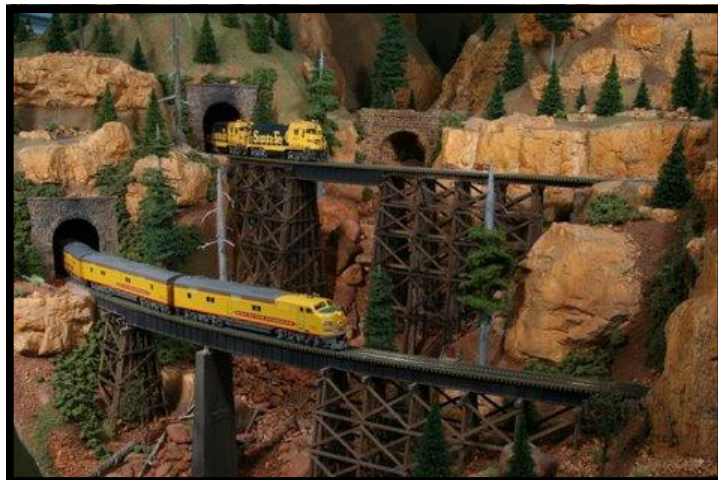
Yes indeed we have fun when we run trains on Operations Night. A joint sharing of the functioning layout where we merge locomotives, rolling stock, and track to bring life, in our imaginations, to every junction and facility as we jockey rolling stock into assigned positions using the rules of the game to meet the assigned goals.

SHARING OUR HO TRAIN LAYOUT WITH FRIENDS AND COMMUNITY

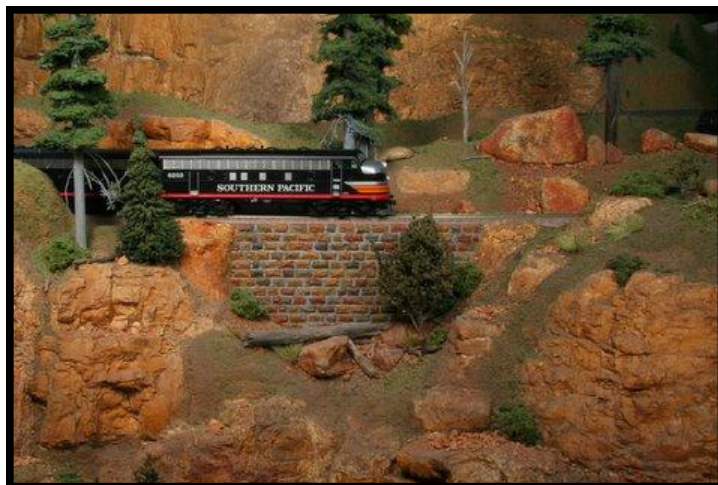
When the Club throws open its doors and invites the public to tour our train layout, the members of the club who conduct the tours, bask in the warm glow of admiration and enjoyment that the visitors exude. From visitors who see our creative efforts for the first time, we get this big “WOW” and once in a while as they turn the first corner, another “WOW” is heard. This recognition is both emotional and visual satisfaction from a visitor, many of whom pay return visits and bring friends. One Mother said to me, *“We are really lucky to have this in our community. My boys are so happy when they come here. I thank you for letting us see this beautiful work of art.”* Now that is what it’s all about, getting young citizens interested in model railroading. Actually it is the duty of everyone who loves modeling to perpetuate the hobby. Modeling is a way to portray the history of our wonderful country and splendid world. Modeling also promotes the American Way of creativity and spontaneity by small groups of people who wish to express their unique talents and learn about patience and tolerance of our fellow man and ourselves.

THE JOY OF RUNNING TRAINS

In our Newsletters of the past most of the pictures displayed scenic views of the latest efforts of our creative members. In this Annual Review we are going to see trains.



Here we are treated to two consists leaving the hidden Fiddle Yard, a double headed freight departing the upper yard and a swift passenger train leaving the lower yard. This next photo shows yet another locomotive.

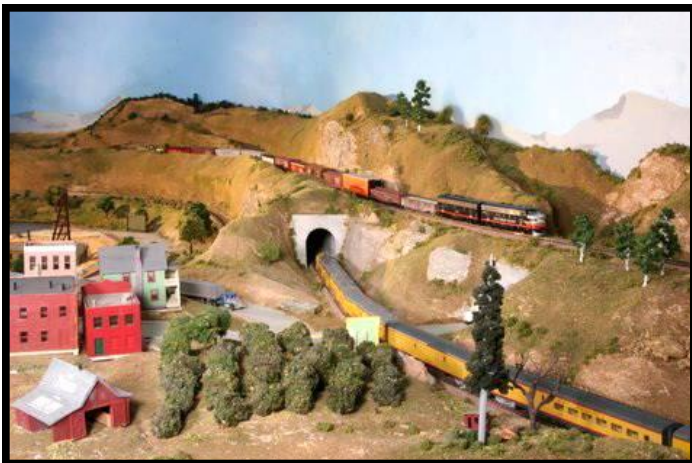


This locomotive is just ahead of the previous location on the upper track. The track runs down the peninsula above the Container Yard and the Port Yard.

Running Trains continued: This view shows the black locomotive approaching above and passing the Port Yard and starting a 3% grade along the back wall. And below we see a passenger train dead heading to the lower Fiddle Yard through a tunnel.

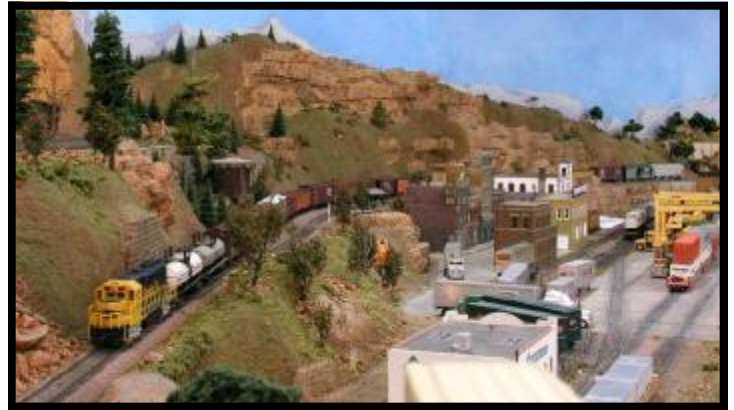


We move quickly shifting our viewing angle to see the same consists, actually we stopped the trains until the camera was in position, continuing on their way.

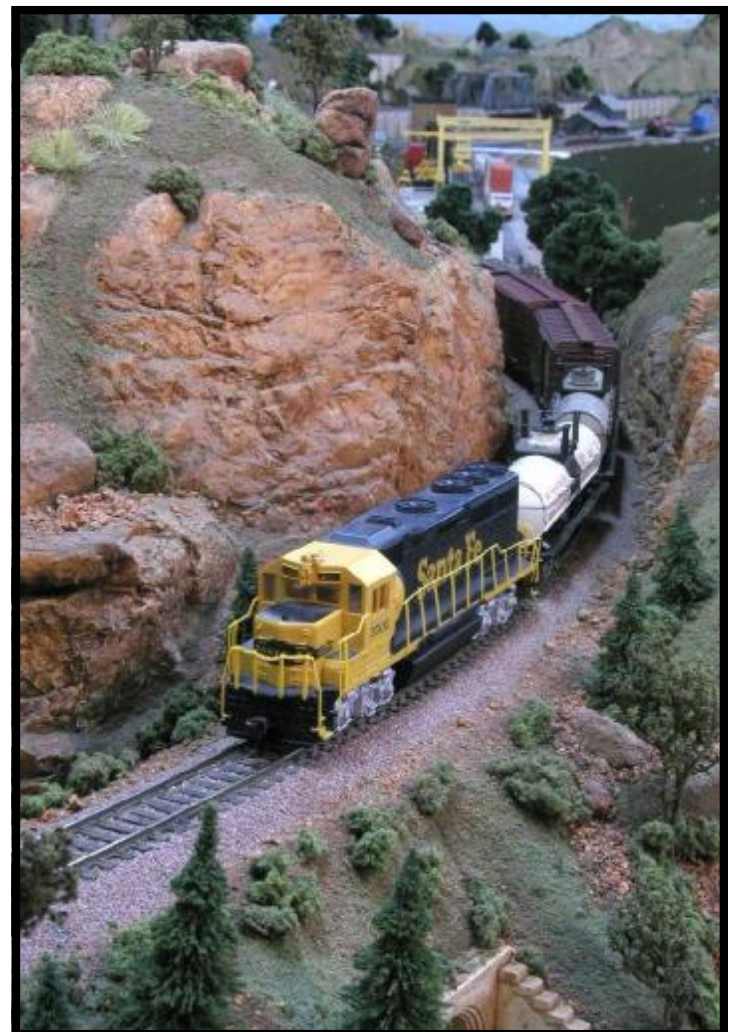


This grand view displays in detail the passing of the two trains. This is a splendid example of the ever developing scenery and railroad operations. Also note that the pop-up cluster of the four buildings is in place on the left side of this photo.

The two following photos show a freight consist rolling along returning to the Fiddle Yard. The next photo has an elevated view of the Container Yard and it appears to be a sunny day in southern Calif.. We are



up tight in this photo, just before the first of two tunnels before entering the Fiddle Yard. After a tough day of hauling freight, its good to get home.



Running Trains continued: Next month we will take a close look at the inside workings of the second peninsula of our train layout.



This final glimpse is of two steam locomotives moving toward a common junction where the lower locomotive, on the main line, will have the right of way

PUBLICITY KOCT has shown the Sprinter Train Safety Film on Oceanside Channel 19 as a feature article on “Inside Oceanside”. Refer to the Club Web Site where Nick Ruddick has made it available for your viewing. The Sprinter starts regular daily operations on the 19th of January 2008 .

OPERATION NOTES The Club rolling stock used during Operational procedures is rapidly growing in quantity and quality. The Maintenance Department has grown in number to four members. Dick McGrew, Tom Bernhardt, Lori La Pierre and Tom McCammant responded to meet the needs of the Club. The Maintenance Department is now responsible for Club rolling stock, Club locomotives and Club layout maintenance. The Club now boasts 286 pieces of rolling stock that meet the Club Standards.

The Club needs to acknowledge the efforts of Nick Ruddick, Cliff Anderson and Jay Sarno for their on going work on the layout turnouts and rail short problems.

STANDARDS The Rolling Stock Standards Committee consisting of Dick Miller, Cliff Anderson and Tom Bernhardt is hard at work polishing up a revision of the Club Rolling Stock , Locomotive and Operation standards soon to be published.

Dick Miller plans to finish up a collection of data presently available that states the Club’s goals, regulations, standards and member guide lines and make it available for distribution as a packet.

BAD ORDERS The only Bad Orders submitted this month were two freight cars and a major turnout altercation, all of which have been repaired. The layout is fully operational.

RETURNED TO GOOD HEALTH

Members at large are happy to see Leo Valley and Dick McGrew back on the active list.

E-BAY WILL BE ACTIVE Your Club E-Bay activities stepped aside for the winter Holidays and will start up this month for another year of making money for the Club. On that note I am asking all members to look around at home for items you wish to donate to the club suitable for sale on E-Bay. The item does not necessary need to be train related. Last year your E-Bay sold an excellent 8 inch telescope for over \$500 . So look around and be creative. Thank you for helping your Club.

Tom Bernhardt

PS– you do not need to bring it in all at once.

North County Model Railroad Society

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