



The Semaphore

On Saturday, October 27th 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 3, 10

Special points of interest:

President's Message by Dick Miller

Rolling Stock Standards

system.

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

An ad-hoc rolling stock committee met every Thursday in August and the first two Thursdays in September to discuss the care and feeding of club and member rolling stock. The stated intent of the committee was to set the standard for club and member rolling stock and to propose methods for inspection, certification, recording and storage.

I was reminded that an operating standard existed that addressed most of our agenda items. That document, titled "NCMRS Operating Standards for Locomotives and Cars", and a separate Bad Order Tag were reviewed and up dated. The standard includes a section that requires all club rolling stock be inspected by a club Registrar to ensure compliance with club standards. If rolling stock does not meet club standards it will be sent to the mechanical department for necessary repairs and then reinserted. Rolling stock that meets club standards will be entered in the Rail-Op database. The inspection date will be part of that data entry.

Certified club rolling stock will be identified with a white and light blue dot on the car's undercarriage. Show-N-Go rolling stock will be identified with a white and red dot. If members have identifying marks on their rolling stock they need to tell a Registrar in order to eliminate duplication.

At this time Dick McGrew and Leo Valley have agreed to act as Registrars. If you need to have your personal rolling stock checked for standards compliance, see Dick or Leo. If you have rolling stock you would like to donate, Dick or Leo will get it into the

The Bad Order form is intended to be used not just for rolling stock but also for any operating problems on the layout. There are three trays located around the club where you can put completed Bad Order Forms. In the case of rolling stock, the noncompliant car and the completed form are to be put in a zip lock bag and placed in one of the trays. The mechanical department is instructed to collect all bad orders daily. They will correct rolling stock Bad Orders and forward the repaired car to the Registrar for reinsertion. For bad orders that relate to the layout, the mechanical department will get the appropriate members to correct those problems. The Bad Order process was simplified in the hope that it would be used.

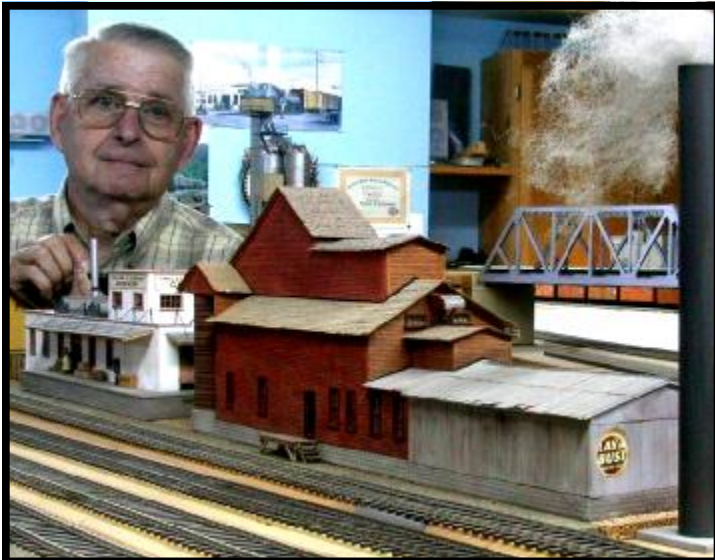
The revised standards were submitted to the board for preliminary approval. Based on that approval copies were e-mailed to the membership prior to last month's general membership meeting. A few days after the meeting I received e-mails and comments from a number of members indicating the standard included too many "suggestions" and "recommendations", which effectively allowed members to run noncompliant engines and rolling stock not exactly our intent. I generally agree with your suggestions. As a result we will reconvene and revise the standards based on your comments. The good news is that we are all talking to each other and I expect a better standards document will be the result. If you have concerns regarding these issues please get involved in the process. We need to get it right this time.

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All Aboard Dick miller

A VISIT To Tom McCammant's Layout.

What you are about to see is the results of twenty years of work that Tom has put into his 25 ft. X 25 ft. work of Art. Here is Tom showing off three of his



many buildings.

The layout has four major “pop-ups” and there are three more that are tight squeezes.



The above picture displays a large two story white Ice House and a conveyer system that services ten Refer Cars. Nice work, Tom.

What you cannot see is a ten foot, five track, hidden yard for passenger trains located below the Icing conveyer. This layout has many such special features.

The layout houses two major yards and a fifteen



track steam locomotive round house facility.

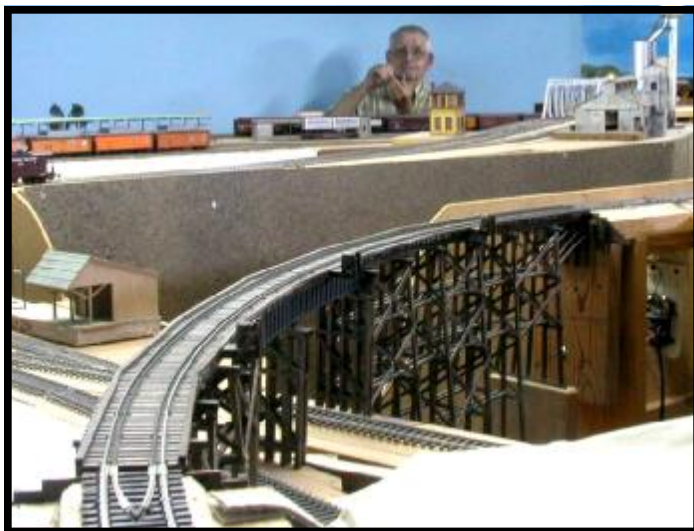
Adjacent to the large steam round house is a two bay, four position maintenance facility for diesels with a full length overhead internal crane for full



service activity. There is no end to the niceties in this layout.

A smaller three track steam locomotive round house is in the second yard.





With a layout of these dimensions there is always room for a five foot trestle There' in the background is Tom. What is he doing? Why certainly he is triggering my camera remotely..



Here we are under the layout where Tom is showing us the train position circuitry. It is set up so that on the six foot control panel each train position is shown by small red diode illuminators as the consist moves along. I told you , this is a nifty layout.

Tom is an avid collector of rolling stock and locomotives. If you visit Tom's layout you must not be allergic to brass, because he certainly has a lot of it in his collection. Thank you Tom, for inviting your Editor to see this excellent HO layout. I will visit Tom and his trains again. It certainly was a treat.

Thanks Tom.

Storage Box Rolling stock storages boxes were received and distributed. There were 35 cartons with 5 boxes per carton. That is a total of 175 boxes. The NCMRS ordered two cartons to enhance its rolling storage capabilities. The club boxes are alphabetically labeled: A CLUB, B CLUB, C CLUB and so on with 14 boxes A—N. The rolling stock in the boxes are all listed in the Rail-Ops Data Base and they are all club cars. There are 4-6 boxes yet to be entered into the Rail-Op Data Base.

North County Model Railroad Society

**Boney's Marketplace
1820 Oceanside Blvd.
Oceanside, Ca. 92054
(760)-722-7366 www.ncmrs.org**

Editor in chief: Tom Bernhardt

Copy editor: Sue Ruddick

Layout: Nick Ruddick