

# The Semaphore

November, 2006

On Saturday, November 25 the Club meeting will be held at 10:00 am, at Boney's Marketplace, 1820 Oceanside Blvd., Oceanside, Ca. Members, guest and visitors are invited.

Special points of interest:

**North County Model Railroad Society (NCMRS)**

**Volume 2, 11**

**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.

**President's Message** by Al Cuevas



It is Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> of October and the PSR Convention finished up yesterday. It was very rewarding seeing all of the work that the Club had put into both the Show-N-Go and our club layout. I have never seen our room that clean! The Show-N-Go, was of top interest of layouts at the Trade Show. We continue to hear very positive comments about both the Show-N-Go and our club layout. All that hard work did not go unnoticed.

As we approach the end of the year it is time to start planning for next year. As always the Club needs officers and directors. While I haven't talked with any of the current incumbents about their intentions, we are always looking for people who are enthusiastic and can put some time in. Speaking from personal experience I can say that I have received much more than I have given while serving as an officer. Some time is involved along with a commitment to the Club.

It seems that our running nights are getting busier. With all of this activity it is time to start creating some procedures so that everyone will have a positive experience. Nothing is more disappointing than bringing your train in and not have it run correctly or run at all. A couple of procedures that must be followed before running trains are, clean your wheels and clean the track. Clean track doesn't last very long if you put engines and rolling stock that haven't had their wheels cleaned first. Secondly, do NOT program on the big layout. This only causes problems for others.

Over the next month or so a run procedure will be developed that will help give a positive experience for all.

My first Saturday back after being gone for quite a while, I talked to a visitor, at the Club Jerry Schoenberg, from Carrollton, TX. Jerry was out visiting relatives and stopped by to see how we were doing. Jerry has worked with the CVP people and has given CVP demos. He gave us an impromptu overview of the upgrades that CVP has recently announced on their web site and followed with a very informative demo of RailOp. RailOp is software that allows computerization of operating sessions. The presentations were very interesting and timely. For some time the Club has been looking at getting more functions for our DCC system. With further study and discussion an upgrade may be an inexpensive way of accomplishing that goal.

A week has gone by since I started this article and every time I look out the window I see Tom Bernhardt ready to ask me if this month's message is finished. Tom has been the engine behind our monthly newsletter. He has written articles when we were short and has solicited other members to provide input. He reminds me when I am late getting the message in, which is most months. So it is time to finish up.

As always there are a number of activities coming up this winter. One of the most rewarding is participating in the shows that the Show-N-Go is involved in. No experience is required. George will always find a place for you to contribute.

See you at the Club.

Al Cuevas  
President  
NCMRS

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## November Scenery Report

By Tom Bernhardt

Scenery work continues on peninsula A, B, and C. Tom Brunner Charlie Tucker laying the code "83" rail at the port.

### *Peninsula A*



**Details make the difference.**

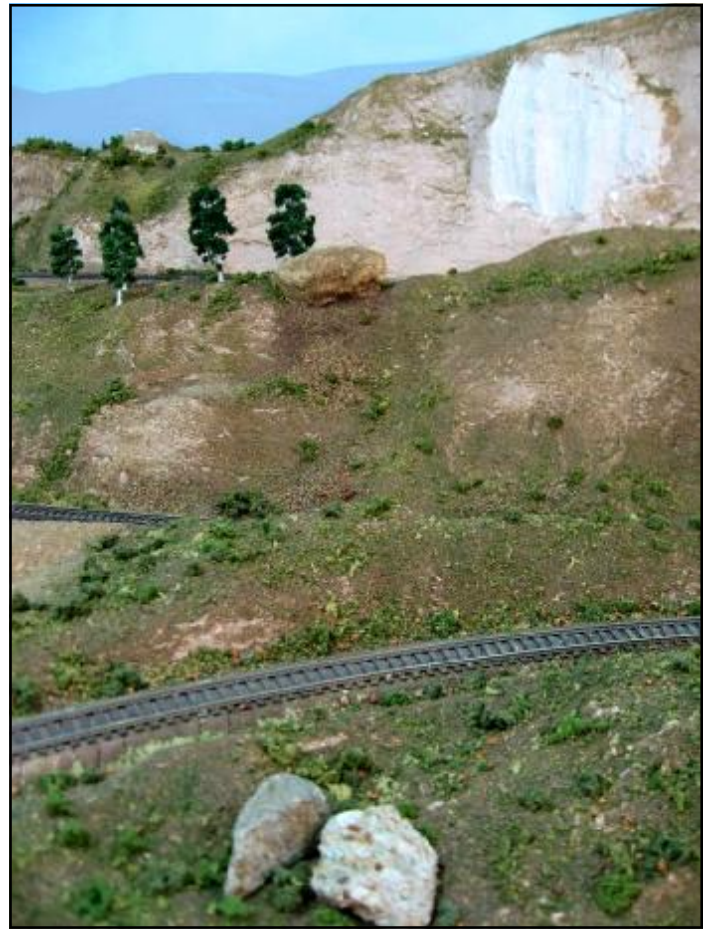


**A picture is worth a thousand words.**

***Peninsula B***  
*View along the port bay.*



**A look at the Bay View Bridge**



**We need to thank Nick Ruddick for these excellent pictures and yes our club scale layout is responding to the power of our artistry. The hours and hours of tedious work by David Ford, Tom Brunner, Charlie Tucker, John Stevens, George Benton and many other stalwart NCMRS members have contributed to this fine work.**

## San Diego Div. PSR, NMRA Convention

**Show-N-Go:** The NCMRS displayed its modular HO, 8 x 16 feet four track layout. The unique aspect of this layout is that it has four separate operating stations available for guest use. Our layout was located just inside the main door at the convention site. Here we see NCMRS members Ralph Powell and George Benton setting up our display.

The Club thanks all the volunteers that participated in supporting the Show-N-Go display.



## San Diego Div. PSR, NMRA Convention

**Club Site Display:** Our club site was put on display for the NMRA convention. We were open to NMRA visitors Wednesday, October 11th from 6 PM to 9PM; Thursday, October 12th from 2 PM to 9 PM and Saturday, October 14th from 10 AM to 3 PM. Altogether we had 28 visitors.

Al Cuevas reported that there were about 150 NMRA members in attendance at the convention, so that makes it that we had 19% of the NMRA members visiting our club site. Most of the visitors stopped by while going to or going from the convention site. There were no reports of guest making the round trip from San Diego.

There was a tremendous house cleaning effort to bring the Club site up to snuff. Clean up started on Thursday, October 5th and continued through October 11th. Scuffed walls were painted, everything was picked up and floors were swept.

This says nothing about the great work that George Benton led on the Show-N-Go. And thanks to the club members who assisted George in re-aligning the modular tables. New track was laid where needed and track joiners were re-soldered.



**NCMRS**

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