

Superintendent's Report By Rich Pitter

First Division has two upcoming events and one outreach project that you should be aware of and help out with, if you can.

First Division Elections

This year we will hold elections for six Directors and a Superintendent. The relevant part of our by-laws follows:

ARTICLE IV - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 1: A nominating committee shall be appointed by the Superintendent prior to April 1 of each odd-numbered year. The nominating committee shall consist of at least two members of the First Division, not including the Superintendent nor a Director.

SECTION 2: The nominating committee shall endeavor to achieve geographical distribution of nominees. Consent of the nominee is required.

SECTION 3: The nominating committee shall nominate candidates for the Board of Directors and shall also nominate candidates for Superintendent in accordance with the PNR By-Laws. Any member of the First Division desiring to run for any office will notify the nominating committee of the fact. The nominating committee will enter the member's name on the ballot. Nominees must be members in good standing of the PNR and NMRA, and aware of the requirements of the office.

SECTION 4: The nominating committee shall prepare the information for the ballot prior to June 1. The ballot shall be distributed to the membership prior to June 15.

SECTION 5: The Superintendent shall appoint a committee to Tellers, none of whom are candidates. Ballots, to be counted must be received by the Tellers at the address printed on the ballot by July 5.

SECTION 6: The six nominees for positions on the Board of Directors, receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected to the Board of Directors. A coin flip will be used to determine the winner in the event of a tie for the last position.

I encourage you to step up and run for a position. Board meetings are held at mini-meets, so service to the Division should not take too much of your time.

We also encourage members to step forward and indicate their interest by volunteering to help in various tasks at mini-meets.

PNR Convention

On April 21-24, 2020, First Division will host the Pacific Northwest Region Convention at Valley River Inn in Eugene. Valley River Inn is a beautiful convention facility located adjacent to Valley River Center and the Willamette River. The convention will immediately precede the Willamette Cascade

Model Railroad Club's annual Eugene Swap Meet and Train Show, which is held at the Lane County Fairgrounds in Eugene.

PNR includes members from five states, three Canadian provinces, and two Canadian territories. We also expect a few dozen NMRA members from other regions to attend. The convention will include three days of clinics, several tours, a model contest, open houses of layouts and operating sessions, a free-mo modular railroad layout, an ice cream social and banquet, and a non-rail program for spouses and significant others. I encourage you to attend. This is a special opportunity for us to learn about new products and techniques, to meet people who have similar modeling interests, and to gain a tremendous inspiration to further your model railroad endeavors at home.

I have seen some awesome models by First Division members that deserve to be entered in the model contest. I have also seen some impressive clinics by our members that merit presentation at the PNR convention. We will be contacting members to encourage their participation in the model contest and the clinics. I think our division has much to present to the rest of PNR. Members of other divisions will also contribute to the contest and clinics, so please consider participating.

We also need a few more members to step forward and volunteer to fill in our convention committee roster. Contact me at richpitter@aol.com and we will chat about things you would like to help with. Thank you.

First Division Booth at Shows

In November 2017, we began offering a scenic make-and-take at the Medford Railroad Show. The event was immensely popular. People made simple scale model trees and scenicked a 3x3-inch foam base. We are attracting show goers to our booth and involving them (or their children), and in that manner we hope to rekindle an interest in active model railroad participation.

We need a few volunteers for our booths at shows. Currently, we have four obligations per year: April at the Eugene Swap Meet and Train Show; May at the Pony Village Mall in North Bend; November at the Medford Railroad Show; and December at the Pony Village Mall in North Bend. We can also use a bit of help in preparing the materials. Here's the point: no prior experience necessary. If you plan to attend a show, please contact me and plan to spend some time at the booth. Also, we seek a few people to help us preparing the materials for the shows.

First Division News

Alan Holzapfel in Otis reports the following:

The Yaquina Pacific Railroad Society put on a Holiday train show at the Toledo, Oregon, Pacific & Western depot on the two weekends before Christmas 2018. Scale layouts featured included O, HO, N, Z and Lego. HO and N scale items were offered for sale and free copies of railroad magazines were also available. Turnout was very good, sales were brisk, and a good time was had by all!

The annual Lincoln City Antique Week occurred this year from February 9-16, and featured a railroad theme. The organizers invited the Beaverton Modular Railroad Club from Alpenrose Dairy to come and set up their layout and operate trains on February 14, 15, and 16 at the display under the Chinook Grill. Participating antique dealers in Lincoln City were encouraged to display railroad items, antiques, and memorabilia during the show. Members of the Yaquina Northern Railroad Club from Newport will be assisting the BMRC and operating trains during the show.

Layout Tours

If you wish to have your model railroad layout shown during the 2020 PNR Convention in April of 2020 please contact Ted Kruysman. He will get back in touch with you to acquire the following information:

1. Name of Layout
2. Date and time available for showing.
3. Dimensions
4. Scale
5. Handicap access.
6. Description and time period.
7. Address and directions from Valley River Inn Convention Center.
8. Point of Contact.
9. Picture of layout if available.

Ted's E-mail is: dutchspeedster@gmail.com

South Coast Train Club By Peter Brandt

During our 3-day Holiday Model Train Show at Pony Village Mall many people came by to see the trains. Our youngest club member, Toby (age 10) brought his Bachmann Ready to Run Train Set for the public to see. Another club member brought his neighbor's son to the show. The two boys spent the weekend together running trains.

There was an MTH wireless controlled layout that the public was able to operate, sounding the horn, ringing the bell and controlling the speed of the train. With over a dozen layouts and displays to see the public had a great time.

We as well as the management of the mall were extremely pleased with the number of people that attended this year's show. The photos were taken during one of the less busy times. Many people had questions about different scales of model railroads and where to purchase model railroad trains and related items.





A New Start for the *Brakeman's Rag*

By Rich Pitter (former Editor)

Our new *Brakeman's Rag* Editor is Charlie Hutto. I hope you will welcome him and lend him your support. He has done a great job for First Division by providing projection help at mini-meets and has become one of our Directors. He has also hosted a mini-meet, entered models for merit award evaluation (they earned merit awards), and written articles for the *Brakeman's Rag*.

As Editor of the *Brakeman's Rag* for seven years, and of the HUB Division (Northeastern Region) *HUB Headlight* for ten years prior to that, I realize that, while being the Editor may not be fun all the time, it is essential for the health and comaderie of the Division to have a regular issue distributed to all members of the Division. It is an important job.

The newsletter, foremost, must be a reference source for members: how to contact Division officers and other leaders, and a timetable of upcoming Division events. Second, in my opinion, the newsletter should provide information about both 100% NMRA model railroad clubs and other model railroad clubs within the division, including when and where they hold their meetings, how to contact them, and what public shows and swap meets they host, so our members can visit them, join them, and attend their shows.

Finally, and this is where all our members are potential contributors, the newsletter provides a way to share information about model railroading—something not as polished as in *Model Railroader*, perhaps, but showing what individuals have done, tricks and tips they came across, and photographs of models they have built or detailed, as well as models of real railroads they have seen in their communities or on vacation. This part is hardest for the Editor to obtain, and it needs your help. Are you doing any model railroading? Are you building or modifying a layout, building a tank car from a kit, scratch-building that vintage depot in your community, or attending monthly operating sessions? Think about it, your experiences are interesting to you, else you wouldn't do them. They are probably also interesting to other First Division members. A photo essay doesn't take much time. Take photos with your cell phone camera (or, if you are like me, with another digital camera), and upload them with captions and maybe a one- or two-paragraph cover story. Don't worry if it isn't perfect. Charlie is good at correcting grammar to make you look good, and he will contact you on missed details to make sure the article comes out looking great. That's what Editors are for.

The third part is the most interesting for most readers. Without that, the newsletter is a two- or four-page flimsy. Do you want that type of minimalization? I expect not. Can you contribute a photo, tip, or short article once or twice a year? For most of you, I expect so. Should you wait for an engraved invitation from Charlie to do so? Consider this to be an ersatz invitation and get started. You may contact Charlie or myself if you have ideas and need some direction. We'll both be happy to help. And, if you think the Master Model Railroader is too remote for you to ever attain, check out its requirements and you will see that submissions count toward the Author Achievement Award.

Upcoming First Division Mini-Meets

Saturday, May 4. First Division Mini-Meet, Myrtle Point. We will meet at the Coos County Fairgrounds, 711 Seventh St. Doors open at 9 AM with coffee and donuts. Program begins at 10. Roger Rasmussen, owner of Coastman's, will lead a Make & Take workshop on how to build conifer Trees using products from his company. We will present the progress on the upcoming PNR Convention that First Division will host in 2020. A model contest will be held and members may bring model railroad items for sale (bring tables for sales). If you want to present a clinic, contact Christopher Jones. Lunch items will be available for purchase at the mini-meet and a First Division Board Meeting, which is open to all members, will be held during lunch. Local model layouts will be open for viewing after the Board Meeting concludes. For more information, contact Christopher Jones, lllandcij@aol.com.

Saturday, Aug. 3. First Division Mini-Meet, Eugene. We will meet at the Gainsborough community clubhouse, 2555 Lansdown Rd. Doors open at 9 AM with coffee and donuts. Program begins at 10. We would like to present a Make & Take workshop, and welcome people coming forward with ideas. We will present the progress on the upcoming PNR Convention that First Division will host in 2020. A model contest will be held and members may bring model railroad items for sale (bring tables for sales). Members who would like to present models for Merit Award evaluation should contact Jeroen Garritsen at least two weeks in advance of the mini-meet. Several clinics are also planned. Lunch items will be available for purchase at the mini-meet and a First Division Board Meeting, which is open to all members, will be held during lunch. After lunch, we expect several layouts to be open for viewing. For more information, contact Rich Pitter, richpitter@aol.com.

Upcoming Model Train Shows and Events

If you notice an error or omission in the listing for your club, please encourage your club leader to provide First Division with the correct information. The Editor regrets missing, out-of-date, or incorrect information. Check with the contacts provided for up-to-date information about meetings and events.

April 13-14, **Willamette Cascade Model Railroad Club 31st Annual Model Railroad Swap Meet and Train Show.** Event will be at the Lane County Fairgrounds, 796 W 13th Ave in Eugene. Hours: Saturday 10am to 5pm, Sunday 10am to 3pm. Admission for both days: Adults \$6, Children 6-12 years old \$1, 5 years and younger free with paying adult. Contact ttandt@ram-mail.com or 541-954-4917 for additional information.

May 17-19, **South Coast Train Club Model Train Show** at Pony Village Mall, North Bend. For info contact Peter Brandt, pcb904@gmail.com.

May 29 - June 2. **Pacific Northwest Region Convention,** Kootenay Express 2020. Cranbrook, BC, Canada. Information: www.kootenayexpress2019.ca.



July 7-13. **NMRA 2019 National Convention,** celebrating the 150th anniversary of completion of the Transcontinental Railroad, is on July 7-13 at Hotel Little America in Salt Lake City, UT. The NMRA National Train Show is on July 12-14 at Southtowne Expo Center, Sandy, UT.

April 20-24, 2020. **Pacific Northwest Region Convention: Make Tracks to Eugene 2020** will be hosted by First Division and will be held at the Valley River Inn in Eugene. Contact Rich Pitter at 541-636-3833 or richpitter@aol.com for more information.

Local Railroad Clubs

These clubs hold meetings and other events within the First Division boundaries. If a club wants to post meeting or event information, it may contact the Editor at charliehutto@hotmail.com.

The **Atlantic & Pacific N-gineers** meet near downtown Junction City. For information, contact Mike Adams at mdadams006@aol.com or 541-913-5865.

The **Corvallis Society of Model Engineers** meets in Adair Village, about 6 miles north of downtown Corvallis on Highway 99W. For information, visit club website at www.csme1959.org.

The **Eastern Cascades Model Railroad Club** and the associated Live Steamers meet in Bend. Info: www.ecmrr.org or (541) 317-1545.

The **Ochoco Valley Railroad Club** meets in the Crook County Fairgrounds, Prineville. Contact Brad Peterson at (541) 447-6158 or Glenn Edmison at (541) 617-1110.

The **Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club** meets in Medford. For information, contact Ron Harten at sprucerr@hughes.net or Bruce Kelly at wilmingtonnorthern@sprynet.com.

The **South Coast Train Club** holds meetings in Coos Bay. It is a 100% NMRA club. Contact Peter Brandt at pcb904@gmail.com.

The **Umpqua Valley Model Railroad Club** meets in Roseburg, OR. It is a 100% MMRA club. For information, contact Nick Lehrbach at lehrbach@rosenet.net.

The **Willamette Cascade Model Railroad Club** meets in Springfield. For information, contact Lee Temple at ttandt@ram-mail.com.

Leaders of model railroad groups who want free advertisement of their activities, should send info for the following four months two weeks prior to the beginning of every third month of the calendar year. The next deadline is May 15. Information on activities for June through October 2019 is appreciated.

Advertising rates for one year are:			
	2 x 3 1/2"	3 x 3 1/2"	4 x 3 1/2"
Commercial	\$24.00	\$36.00	\$48.00
Club	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$40.00
Classified	\$16.00	\$24.00	\$32.00
Individual RR Pike	\$12.00	\$18.00	\$24.00

The Brakeman's Rag is the newsletter of First Division, Pacific Northwest Region, National Model Railroad Association. The newsletter is published quarterly. All NMRA members residing within the counties of Benton, Coos, Crook, Curry, Deschutes, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lane, Lincoln, and Linn in Oregon are considered to be First Division members.

The Brakeman's Rag is transmitted by email and posted on our web page. Members who do not have email service receive the newsletter by U.S. Mail. First Division members who want to write articles are welcome to contact the Editor and discuss matters. You may also send a photo and caption of something you built or detailed to the Editor. Material from outside the Division is selected to fill empty space and to advance model railroading for our readers.

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Lachlan & Paula MacKinnon *work*