



On the Right Track

First Quarter / 2008 Newsletter of the SLOMRA

Dates to Remember

March 1 & 2

The Great Train Expo
The Cow Palace
Daly City

March 8 & 9

Golden Empire Historical and
Modeling Society's Annual
Model Train Show & Swap Meet
Kern County Fairgrounds
www.gehams.net

March 17, 7pm

Monthly Meeting
Oceano Depot

April 21, 7pm

Monthly Meeting
Oceano Depot

April 30-May 4

PCR Convention
"Sierra Memories"
www.pcrnmra.org

May 17

Public Outreach Program
Sydney Creek Alzheimer's &
Dementia Care Center
San Luis Obispo

May 19, 7pm

Monthly Meeting
Oceano Depot

June 14, 10am to 5pm

Model Train Mini-Show
Paso Robles Library

Welcome to our New Members

Jenny Curzan

Rich Hansen

Luis Lozano

Ronald Matthews

Bill Obermeyer

Dennis Pearson

Anthony Throckmorton

Jay Weise

President's Message

Greetings fellow model railroaders and members of the SLOMRA,

What a great finale to the 2007 year! It brings me great pleasure to officially announce that the association has finally attained 501(c)3 non-profit status, and is now able to receive tax-deductible donations. Due in large part to the unyielding efforts of secretary Michael Mickens with the help of Ken Weber, this major milestone in the development of our group will help to facilitate a great leap towards the ultimate achievement of attaining our own permanent model railroad museum location.

Other notable events that the SLOMRA participated in late last year included the Harvest Festival on Sept. 29th and Railroad Weekend on Dec. 8th and 9th, both in Arroyo Grande. Both events enjoyed huge audiences viewing our layouts in N, HO, and O scales.

During Railroad Weekend, Sharon and Chuck Ellison hosted our annual Christmas Party at their lovely home in AG. We all had a great time even though my "insanity sauce" for the chili was literally...insane! That night, existing board members were re-elected to an additional term, and welcomed Curtis Reinhardt aboard as the new SLOMRA Membership Director. A move that has already proven effective, as the club has already seen a membership growth of five new members! To all our new members: "Welcome aboard!" Unfortunately, due to school obligations, Derek Benedict has had to step down as Superintendent. If anyone is interested in helping out with these duties, please speak to one of our board members for more information.

The gang all pulled together and welcomed 2008 with a tremendously successful Oceano Depot Open House event on January 27th. Old Ma Nature did her best to try to keep the masses away with her wind and rain, but the love of trains and model railroading prevailed, and the turnout was estimated to be over 500 people! Five operating layouts were displayed, including the full N-scale modular featuring Chuck Ellison's two new logging modules. These units are rich with outstanding scenery, dramatic mountains, and pine trees galore! Wind gusts did eventually take our power out about halfway through the event, but we secured an emergency generator and restored electricity to keep the occasion from derailing.

Prior to the event, the club made a small investment into some model railroad



What model railroading is all about!

See **President's Message** on next page



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**The past...
and the present...
on the right track.**

President's Message continued from other side

items and with our huge model railroad yard sale that Stuart Young helped organize; we raised almost \$700 including new membership fees! I want to thank every member of the SLOMRA who pitched in to make this event truly an outstanding club achievement. Our gratitude is also extended to Linda Austin and the Oceano Depot Association, Central Coast Trains, and excellent media coverage. Without this support we would not have attained the level of accomplishment we realized.

"There is clear track ahead...ALL ABOARD!"

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting,

Jim Keating, President -SLOMRA

SLOMRA Membership Directory

The Board of Directors:

Jim Keating, President
Stuart Young, Vice-President
Chuck Ellison, Chief Financial Officer
Michael Mickens, Secretary
and Curtis Reinhardt, Membership Director

Voting Members:

Derek Benedict, Jenny Curzan, Rich Hansen,
Peter Healey, Luis Lozano, Ronald Matthews,
Bill Obermeyer, Dennis Pearson,
Anthony Throckmorton, Jay Weise,
Dave Wilding, Don and Judy Zitting.

What's Happening by Scales

N scale Modular: The two piece yard has been scrapped. Usable parts were taken off before it was sent to its final resting place. We are now working on a new two piece, but smaller yard. We are also working on scenery on three other pieces.

Future HO Modular: Michael M. has been working on plans for a new HO Modular. He is looking for members to join in the project. Nothing is set in stone, so members who join this group still have time to have a say in its design.

Future On30 Modular: Stuart Y. and Dennis P. have made preliminary plans to start an On30 modular based on the Pacific Coast Railway. Anyone interested may join.

Oceano Depot HO Layout: We have replaced the HO layout at the depot with the one we had recently purchased that runs more reliably and has diesel and steam sound. More scenery work needs to be done. Any volunteers should see any of the Board members who wish to finish the layout.

For more information, visit us on the web at www.slomra.org