



# The Daylight Observation

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## Next Daylight Division Meeting

### **WINTER MEET TO BE IN VISALIA** Hosted by Brewster Bird and Don Smith

**This Quarter's meeting will be held on February 25** at the Robert Ludekens Scout Shop and Office in Visalia. The address is 230 NW Third Ave. It is located off Route 63, three blocks north of the Visalia Oval Park area on the east side of the street. The Scout Shop phone is 559-732-3424. The meeting time is planned from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Self-guided Tours will follow the morning activities.



We are planning two clinics and an operating industrial switching layout will be displayed. One of the clinics scheduled will be "further laser kit work" in structure weathering and detailing. It will be your choice of N or HO scales and materials are provided. Additional information will be posted to the Daylight Division Yahoo Group, so be sure to check it before the meet.

The modeling and photography themes for this quarter are: models – cabooses and the photography topic is railroad structures. Bring in your items for judging and any of your items for display. This is always your chance to show and ours to see what is being done in our midst.

The Division meeting will follow. A topic to be discussed is "looking for creative locations and activities for our meetings" as well as "who has a new layout to see?"

Nominations for the 2012 and 2013 officers elections are open, so be prepared to discuss our next leaders and the direction you want our Division to proceed. The Division Director to PCR, Superintendent and Chief Clerk and Paymaster positions are up for election. The Director post is up for vote now and the others are for next year. This is your opportunity to take action and directly help guide the operation of the Division.

See Page 8 for directions again and Map.

## **Daylight Call Board**

### **Director - termed out 2012**

John Houlihan  
Fresno, CA 93711  
559.435.0874  
john@irishtracklayer.com

### **Superintendent**

Dave Grenier  
Clovis, CA 93611  
559.297.1345  
grenida@pacbell.net

### **Chief Clerk/Paymaster**

Suzanne Paff  
Madera, CA 93636  
559.645.5145  
suzannepaff@comcast.net

### **Member Aid**

Bob Pethoud  
Fresno, CA 93704  
pethoud@comcast.net

**Election of new Division  
Director in Branch Line!**



### Membership

Doug Wagner  
Bakersfield, CA 93312  
661.589.0391  
carldw@aol.com

### Contests

Steve Biggs  
Tehachapi, CA 93561  
661.821.7330  
sbiggs@sbcglobal.net

### Layout Tours Chairman

Gary Saxton  
Clovis, CA 93611  
559.235.8140  
gbs46@sbcglobal.net

### Achievement

Dave Grenier  
Clovis, CA 93611  
559.297.1345  
grenida@pacbell.net

### Clinics

Doug Wagner  
Bakersfield, CA 93312  
661.589.0391  
carldw@aol.com

### Parliamentarian

Brewster Bird  
Visalia, CA 93277  
559.732.6096  
mec569@aol.com

### Observation Editor

George Pisching  
Fresno, CA 93722  
559.275.0199  
gmpisching@netzero.com

## From the Super's Desk

# DAVE'S DISPATCH

### by Dave Grenier



The Division held its Fall Meet in the restored historic SP Oceano Depot on October 8, in conjunction with the Central Coast Railroad Festival. Thanks to our hosts, the San Luis Obispo Model Railroad Association, for organizing the meet. Paul Deis presented a hands-on clinic, sponsored by Bragdon Enterprises, on weathering freight cars. Terry Taylor followed with a side of Santa Fe operations not often seen, notable train wrecks in the Central Valley.

I want to thank everyone that participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Open House Tour this past December. Nine layouts, from N to O scale, belonging to owners Steve Silva (HO), Marlin Costello (HO), Leon & Zac Emory (HO), Chuck Harmon (HO), John Houlihan (O), Bob Pethoud (HO), Rob Briney (HO), John Ptacek & Trina Eaton (HO), and Gary Saxton (N) were open to the public for viewing in the Fresno-Clovis area throughout the day Saturday, December 3. Thanks especially to Gary for organizing the layout tours.

I also want to thank everyone that volunteered for the Train Show at the Fig Garden Regional Library in Fresno the following week. George Pisching stepped up to organize the day-long presentation, held in conjunction with the library's monthly theme promoting railroading. There were several modular layouts on display and in operation, plus a circle of track with Thomas the Tank Engine for the youngsters to run.

The next Daylight Division meet will be February 25, 2012, starting at 9:30 AM, at the Sequoia Council Boy Scouts of America Office, 230 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Visalia. Come join us for clinics, contests, White Elephant Auction, layout tours, and more. Contest categories: Models – Cabooses; Photos – Railroad Structures.

This year's PCR convention, Siskiyou Summit 2012, is coming up on May 2-5, 2012. It is being held jointly with the Pacific Northwest Region in Medford, OR. A full slate of clinics, contests, and tours are being planned for your enjoyment. There will be a bus tour to Train Mountain Museum, the largest model railroad in the world. For more information and to register online, visit the website at [www.pcrnmra.org/conv2012/](http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2012/).

See you in Visalia!

Submit your items to  
[gmpisching@netzero.com](mailto:gmpisching@netzero.com).

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**Mike Bruno**  
**Theresa Bruno**

# Director's Report

## **REPORTED TO THE PCR**

by John Houlihan



Gary Saxton put together a great display of layouts for the Fresno Layouts Tour Day. I liked the organization of morning layouts on one side of Fresno and afternoon layouts on the other side of town.

The following Saturday, George Pisching organized a group of displays at the Fig Garden Library. Participating were Bob and Sylvia Pethoud, George Pisching, Bert Greeley, Brewster and Sally Bird and John Houlihan. Several new NMRA members were signed up. The event was well attended, with a good mix of children and adults viewing the modules and running the display train.

The joint PCR-PNR convention in Medford will provide some interesting modeling. The trip up will provide new vistas not normally seen by stay at home modelers. Your participation in the adventure is requested. If it is a successful venture, perhaps a joint meeting with PSR can be arranged. PSR was part of the PCR 25 years ago.

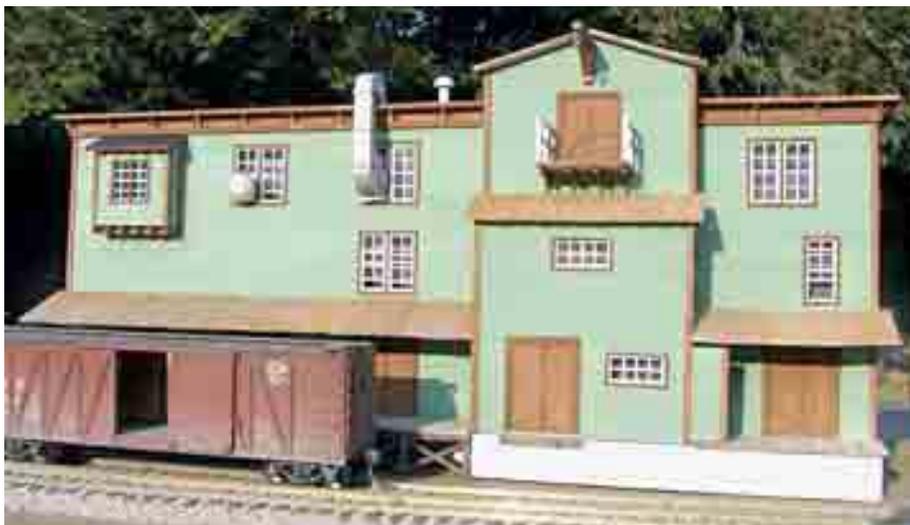
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## Member Aid

### **THE ANSWERS ARE OUT THERE: EVERGREEN FURNITURE**

by Bob Pethoud

Fall Creek is now fully operational and has been displayed at three different events. With an endless belt of switch lists to provide challenge and purpose, the railroad is proving addictive to operate. My next goal is to replace the many building mock-ups with realistic model structures.



The photo above shows my still unfinished Evergreen Furniture factory, built from Blair Line's Backdrop Warehouse kit. This is a

*Continued on Page 6*

## Upcoming Events

**2012 Model & Photo  
Contest Categories**  
– Steve Biggs

**February 2012 – Visalia /  
Exeter area**

Models: Cabooses

Photos: Railroad Structures

**May 2012 – Mariposa /  
Merced County area**

Models: Passenger Cars

Photos: Trains in the Seasons

**August 2012 – Bakersfield/  
Tehachapi area**

Models: Steam Locomotives

Photos: Steam Locomotives

Visit the Daylight Web Site at  
[www.pcrnmra.org/daylight](http://www.pcrnmra.org/daylight)

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George Pisching  
3564 W. Fedora Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93722  
559.275.0199  
[gmpisching@netzero.com](mailto:gmpisching@netzero.com)



# Last Meeting

## **REPORT ON OCEANO**

by George Pisching



Our last division meeting was on October 8 at Oceano, CA. This was during the Central California Rail Road Festival. We were graciously hosted at the Oceano Depot by the San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum.



Terry Taylor presented a tongue-in-cheek review of Railroad Wrecks and Paul Deis, event coordinator, presented a hands-on weathering clinic. This clinic sponsored by Bragdon Enterprises (the weathering gurus) was enthusiastically participated in by all levels of craft. The weathering powders kits provided were raffled off afterwards.

We were delighted by an excited visitor, Steve Pippin from Dana Point who is traveling on a tour of railroads to the CSRM in Sacramento.

Terry Taylor received the Golden Spike Award and two AP certifi-

cates. One for Association Volunteer and one for Association Author.

There was a good turnout of models entered in the contest and the quality was exceptional. The winners were Chuck Harmon's HO-scale Iron Works structure and Paul Haworth's scratchbuilt G-gauge Track Flanger/Balast Spreader. Chuck also won the photo contest.

After the meeting we dashed off to explore hobby businesses and layouts in the area and on the way home.



# WOODLAND SCENICS FIRE

## Report gathered by George Pisching

Photos: Huge fire in Linn Creek

LINN CREEK, Mo. — A fire engulfed Woodland Scenics, a business that makes miniature scenery for model train layouts and other uses, in the downtown area on Thursday afternoon. It's across the street from city hall. The fire destroyed two of the company's three buildings. The company employs 150 people. Many were working when the fire broke out a little after noon. They all got out safely. Osage Beach Fire Protection District, Mid-County Fire Protection District, Camdenton Fire Department, Lake Ozark Fire Protection District and five other districts fought the fire and worked to protect nearby buildings. They had to transport water to the scene to battle the blaze. A video of the fire was posted on YouTube at:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJTFqQgUq\\_c&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJTFqQgUq_c&feature=youtu.be)

Also at: <http://www.ky3.com/videogallery/67191253/News/Woodland-Scenics-engulfed-by-flames>

Per the Woodland Scenics Facebook page, they are at work.

“Thank you for your support and prayers. We are fortunate to have such caring and loyal customers. Because of our thorough safety procedures and incredible emergency support personnel, we were able to get everyone out safely. Although one of our buildings has been lost we are back at work today assessing what needs to be done and most operations are continuing as usual. Thank you again for your support and encouragement.”

On 1/5/2012 9:47 PM, Bob Sexton wrote:

Just learned there was a fire at Woodland Scenics that will put them out of business for a while. Check the links below.

<http://www.lakenewsonline.com/news/x1819712563/Fire-in-downtown-Linn-Creek>

<http://www.ky3.com/news/ky3-huge-fire-destroys-business-in-linn-creek-20120105,0,4228890.photogallery>

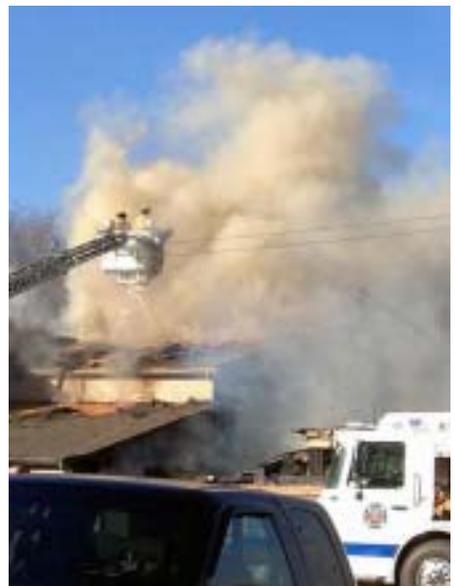
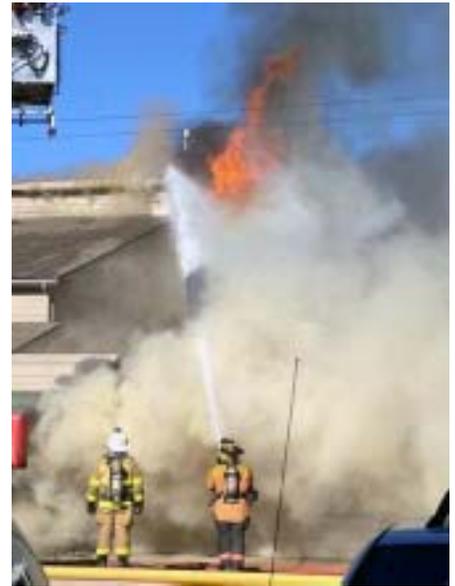
Hi Gang, Here are some more photos:

<http://www.newtribune.com/news/2012/jan/05/fire-damages-linn-creek-factory/>

David Osment was the owner when I worked there, he would be over 80 now. 150 workers! They didn't have over 20 when I worked there in 1983. David had basically bought every building in downtown Linn Creek to move the operation from Kansas City, Kansas. The buildings had no sprinklers in 1983.

I'm glad everyone got out OK and no fire fighters were injured.

Best wishes to them all. Carl Blum.



# ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

## AP AWARDS

### By Dave Grenier

I am pleased to announce that the following Daylight members earned several AP certificates and awards since the last report:

Brewster Bird	Association Official
Brewster Bird	Association Volunteer
John Drazin	Golden Spike Award
Andrew Merriam	Master Builder Civil
Andrew Merriam	Master Builder Electrical
Andrew Merriam	Master Builder Scenery
Mike O'Brien	Master Builder Scenery
Bob Pethoud	Golden Spike Award
Bob Randall	Association Volunteer
Terry Taylor	Model Railroad Author
Terry Taylor	Association Volunteer
Terry Taylor	Golden Spike Award

Congratulations to each one of you! Keep up the good work.

Feel free to contact me if you have any question on the AP.

**BE SEEN** by the most active Model Railroaders in the area - from San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara to Madera, Fresno and Bakersfield.

### Advertise in the Observation

To place your ad in the next 4 issues – send your business card sized ad and \$40 payment to the Observation Editor or contact the Editor for more information. See officers list for address.

## Evergreen Furniture Continued

laser-cut wood structure which turned out to be a joy to build. All the parts fit together perfectly and the instructions take you logically and easily through the process. There is, however, one small but important correction to make: the kit's photos and drawings all consistently tell you to mount the hoist support (part A8, the triangular wood structure projecting straight out just below the gabled roof) upside down from the way it should be mounted. See illustration. This is not simply a matter of which way looks better to the modeler, because only placing the horizontal beam at the top allows this to represent an extension of the roof beam, to be high enough above the loading platform to support a pulley, and to put the diagonal member in compression, as it needs to be, since wood is weak in tension. Fortunately, the mounting boss is centered, so no modification is needed to orient the part correctly.

While the kit's instructions are otherwise entirely adequate, what follow are a few techniques I used to make this well-designed structure even better:

- Instead of the suggested two color paint scheme, I used three. On models with oversized window mullions (most models in HO) it's a good idea to paint these relatively crude items a dark color in order to draw attention away from them. Because Blair Lines mullions are so close to scale, I painted them white so you can't miss them.
- While on the subject of painting, here are a few words about what and how. I began the kit by laying out the parts and spraying them with a white primer, using an inexpensive spray can from OSH. The rest of the painting was done with a small brush using inexpensive acrylic craft paints from Michaels (Apple Barrel and Craft Smart are the brands I used). I find that one coat is rather uneven and translucent, suggestive of a very faded and weathered finish. By the third coat, allowing several minutes drying time between applications, the finish is smooth, opaque, and free of visible brush strokes. I used two coats each for the moss green walls and the brown trim, resulting in a lightly faded and weathered structure which is reasonably well maintained. The boards on the loading dock were individually painted with several shades of gray and brown to suggest unpainted and very weathered planks. The exposed support beams under the dock were done with darker grays and browns to represent creosoted wood.
- A modification which does not show in the photos is 1/4" square poplar bracing (from OSH again) glued into the interior corners at the rear. I also added a balsa wall at the rear of the gabled roof, because the two roof sections are otherwise supported only at their front edges.
- I mounted black cardstock about 1/4" behind the windows so that there will be no chance of viewers spying my sky blue backdrop through those windows.
- I added a scratchbuilt pulley wheel to the aforementioned hoist beam, since none was supplied in the kit. I drilled a hole in the

*Continued on Page 7*

# Chief Clerk Report

## **DAYLIGHT DIVISION MINUTES**

AUGUST 20, 2011

The summer meet was held in Fresno. The business meeting was called to order at 1:05 by Superintendent Dave Grenier. A motion was made by Chuck Harmon and seconded by Mike O'Brien to accept the meetings of the previous meeting as published in the Daylight Observation. The motion carried. A motion was made by Brewster Bird and seconded by Doug Wagner to accept the Treasurers report as published in the Daylight Observation. The motion carried. The following bills were submitted: George Pisching for the Observation and Donuts & Coffee \$226.45. A motion was made by Brewster Bird and seconded by Chuck Harmon to pay the bills. The motion carried.

Director John Houlihan is looking for people to run for his position. Suzie Paff and Dave Grenier were both nominated for the position.

Dave announced that Ed Hall and Andrew Merriam were both contest winners at the X2011 national convention. Also we are still looking for volunteers for Contest Chair and Industry Liaison Positions.

Golden Spike awards were presented to Ron Baker, Terry Taylor, Bob Pethoud, and John Drazin. Chuck Harmon received the Model Railroad Author Award. John Houlihan received the Association Official Award and Andrew Merriam received 2 merit awards at the X2011 National Convention.

The next meet will be on October 8, 2011 the Oceano Depot in Oceano.

The February 2012 meet will be in Visalia or Exeter and the May 2012 meet will be in the Mariposa/Merced area.

There were no contest entries. The meeting was adjourned for the White Elephant Auction and raffle.

Respectfully Submitted, Suzanne Paff. Chief Clerk/Paymaster

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## Division Paymaster

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

by Suzanne Paff

DAYLIGHT DIVISION TREASURY REPORT 10/8/2011

DATE	TRANSACTION	DEBIT	CREDIT	TOTAL
8/20/2011	BALANCE FORWARD			\$ 3,133.58
8/20/2011	REGISTRATION		\$ 165.00	\$ 3,298.58
8/20/2011	WHITE ELEPHANT		\$ 136.00	\$ 3,434.58
8/20/2011	RAFFLE		\$ 50.00	\$ 3,484.58
10/8/2011	DONUTS & WATER	\$ 45.57		\$ 3,439.01
11/22/2011	PCR ALLOCATION		\$ 81.00	\$ 3,520.01
1/14/2012	ENDING BALANCE			\$ 3,520.01

Stay Up To Date and Find Your Next Event on the Daylight Web Site at [www.pcrnmra.org/daylight](http://www.pcrnmra.org/daylight)

## Evergreen Furniture

center of a short length of 1/8" diameter styrene rod, then removed a small cylindrical slice and threaded some .019" diameter brass wire through it. After bending the wire to shape, the ubiquitous craft paint and some weathering chalks completed this little detail.

- The photo shows the building before the final weathering steps. It's still way too clean and neat to be a convincing industrial structure on the wrong side of the tracks. The plan is to mask off the windows and use an airbrush to spray a thin wash of Floquil Grimy Black uniformly over everything. In my quest for realism, I find that my three favorite dwarves are now Dusty, Rusty, and Grimy. The last thing I will do is apply weathering chalks from Bragdon Enterprises to further discolor specific areas.

So that's the latest news from Fall Creek. Feel free to contact me with questions and comments at [pethoud@comcast.net](mailto:pethoud@comcast.net)

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## In Memoriam

Michael Morris, Bakersfield, CA;  
Joined 1/1/1980

James Williams, Friant, CA;  
Joined 1/1/1967

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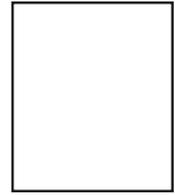
## Get the Observation On-Line

Get it from the Division Web Site, and in **COLOR**. It is posted in the first month of each quarter.

If you have an email address on file, you will receive a notice when the Observation is posted.

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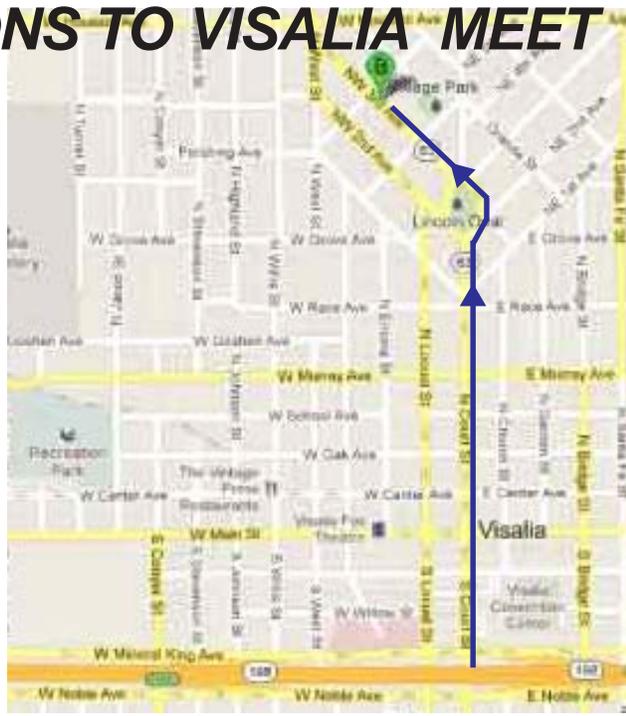


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## **DIRECTIONS TO VISALIA MEET**

This meeting will be held on February 25 at the BSA Scout Shop and Office in Visalia. The address is 230 NW Third Ave. It is located off Route 63, three blocks north of the Visalia Oval Park area on the east side of the street (see map).

The Scout Shop phone is 559-732-3424. The meeting time is planned from 9:00am to 1:00pm.



Advertisement

## **MODELING HELP WANTED**

**An opportunity to earn your Structures AP Certificate**

I am looking for about 100 modelers who want to get their structures AP certificates in the next 2-3 years.

The Memphis Railroad and Trolley Museum is going to build 2 large display layouts featuring scenes from the Memphis area and it will need over 1000 buildings and about all will be scratchbuilt. If you are interested in assisting, please contact me: [mrffleming@netzero.net](mailto:mrffleming@netzero.net)

Mike Fleming, Superintendent, Bluff City Div. SER, NMRA President Emeritus, Memphis Society of Model Railroaders, Vice President, Memphis Railroad and Trolley Museum Model Railroad Club, a 100% NMRA Member Club.

From: [mrffleming@netzero.net](mailto:mrffleming@netzero.net) from [NMRAAP@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NMRAAP@yahoogroups.com), Date: Tue, 1 Nov 2011.

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## **National Officers Ballot - 2012**

Here are the job titles and candidates as they appear on the ballot.

**President:**

Charles W. Getz, IV, HLM

**Vice President - Administration:**

Howard Goodwin  
Clark Kooning, MMR  
Dave Thornton

**Vice President - Special Projects:**

Bill Kaufman  
James "Lump" Lupfer

**At-Large North American Director**

Mike Brestel  
Miles Hale, MMR

**Eastern District Director**

John Roberts, MMR, HLM

**Pacific District Director**

Mike Bartlett  
Kelly Loyd  
Rob Peterson

## **Don't Forget to Vote!**

Candidates statements and ballots have been mailed and are in the NMRA magazine. You can review this info at the NMRA web site at:

**[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)**

**Get there today and VOTE!!**