



The Daylight Observation

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Daylight Division, PCR / NMRA
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Daylight Division Fall Meet November 7 in Santa Barbara

By Bruce Morden

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Daylight Division's November meet will be held at Gary Siegel's home in Santa Barbara. This meet is open to both members of the NMRA and non-members. It will feature both of Gary's layouts - the HO L&N Eastern Kentucky Division (<http://www.pbase.com/rbarnes11/lnekdiv>) and the Outdoor G-Scale layout, the SP Santa Cruz Division. Gary's home is located at 1143 Camino Vieja. (See map on back page.)

Registration will start at 9:30 AM with donuts, visiting "old friends" and making new ones, admiring models and photos. Be sure to bring your entries. Registration cost is just \$4 if you are an NMRA member and \$5 for non-members. This fee pays for the soft drinks, donuts, water etc with any surplus or deficit going to the Division. Non-members may wish to become a member at the door as they will then be eligible to participate in the auctions as well as all the other benefits. For first timers and those whose membership has lapsed for over 2 years, a trial Rail Pass Membership in the NMRA is only \$9.95 for 6 months, which includes 6 issues of Scale Rails Magazine. This is a one time deal in that you can't join at this rate, quit for a couple of years and then rejoin at this rate again. So why not try it and see part of what you have been missing?

The meeting and clinics will start shortly after 10AM. We will have two clinics including a possible make-and-take clinic. The business meeting and white elephant auction will follow the clinics prior to lunch.

Lunch will be informal at the site followed by an operations session on Gary's indoor railroad. The layout can easily accommodate 20-25 operators and we will also have some trains running informally outdoors for those waiting for a train inside. The session will start at 1PM with a crew meeting and continue until 5:30, take a break and then continue if you wish until 9 or 9:30. There will not be any off site layout tours during this meet.

We will try to arrange for our usual good weather so that your visit will be enjoyable. Come to the meet and plan on having a great time.



Don Mirobali is dispatching at the CTC Board on Gary's Layout

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Daylight Division Director's Report



Our division is working on a revision of its by-laws. According to some of the greatest minds in the railroad field, these by-laws are information only and have no legal effect. The reasoning being that the division has no legal standing on its own. It exists because the PCR creates its boundaries and its purpose. With that in mind, there will be changes in the way division members vote for change at the local level. This means that more people can be railroaded into doing volunteer work without being able to vote themselves out of the job.

New display cases are ready for me to install the convention cars. Dan Smith of the Coast Division built the cases. I am taking them to the mid-term meet in Reno, so they will not be available for viewing at the Santa Barbara meet. These cases will include a plastic cover to keep dust and hands off the models. You can see a glimpse of Dan's shop and a great view of his G Scale railroad on YouTube under Happy rails or Smith family railroad.

With the start of the layout tour season, I am trying to make my layout look like it operates flawlessly. Have you been doing similar work on your layout? One of the corollaries of Murphy's law is that everything can go right on any given day. Just make that day December 5th.

John Houlihan
Director, Daylight Division, PCR

DAVE'S DISPATCH

From the Super's Desk
By Dave Grenier



Daylight Division held its Summer Meet on Saturday, August 22, at the home of **Mary Carole and Hilding Larson** in San Luis Obispo, where they served up their now-famous BBQ lunch. After the business meeting, we held our first Daylight Auction, with 100 items entered. Thanks to everyone who helped to make the meet and auction a success, especially our hosts Mary Carole and Hilding.

In addition, I am happy to announce that **Hilding Larson** recently earned his Golden Spike Award. Congratulations to you, Hilding! Keep up the good work.

Nominations for the positions of Superintendent, Chief Clerk /Paymaster, and Director were accepted during the business meeting. The deadline for additional nominations is midnight, Saturday, November 21,

(Continued on Page 3)

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DIVISION HISTORIAN

Vacant

Observation On-Line

Save your Division some postage money. E-mail the Observation Editor and ask to be notified when the Observation is posted on the Web Site. You will not receive a hard copy in the mail, saving us first class postage four times a year. You will receive an e-mail when the Web posting is available. You can download the .pdf file to print or whatever you wish. The savings can be returned to you in the form of better meets and activities.

Please send your e-mail to me at harmonsta@aol.com. Please put Observation in the subject box so I won't mistake it for junk mail.

Chuck Harmon

Superintendent's Report (Continued)

2009. Submit any additional nominations to Chief Clerk/Paymaster **Suzie Paff**.

The Fall Daylight Division meet will be November 7, 2009 at the Santa Barbara home of **Gary Siegel**, with registration starting at 9:30 AM. We'll have an opportunity to operate Gary's world-class L&N, EK Division HO layout as part of the meet. Be sure to join us next month for this special treat!

Member **Joe Paff** answered the call for auction volunteers and was appointed Daylight Auction Committee Chairperson. He has already gotten to work revising the auction procedures and guidelines. (The originals were removed from the Division's website and Yahoo! Group files.) Thanks to Joe for volunteering his services to the Division.

A By-Laws Revisions committee was formed to rewrite the current Daylight Division By-Laws, last published in 1983, to modernize them and correct some deficiencies. Accepting the call to participate in this effort were: **Brewster Bird, Chuck Harmon, John Houlihan, Bruce Morden, Suzie Paff, Terry Taylor, Doug Wagner**, and myself. Our goal is to present the proposed revisions at the November 7th meet, followed by division-wide voting on the same ballot as the election of officers.

The 2nd Annual Fresno/Clovis Open House will be held Saturday, December 5. There will be some new layouts this year, so join us for this FREE activity open to the community.

For the Winter Meet, we'll be heading to Bakersfield on February 6, 2010, where our hosts will be the Golden Empire Historical and Modeling Society at their downtown clubhouse.

Check the PCR Master Calendar for more upcoming events, www.pcrnmra.org/pcr/calendar/mastercalendar.html. It's the one best place to check for events in the PCR and beyond.

Speaking of events, the Early-Bird registration rate of \$99.00 for the Extra 2011 West NMRA 2011 National Convention in Sacramento has been extended to January 1st, 2010. Be sure to take advantage of this special rate. Check it out at www.x2011west.org.

See you in Santa Barbara!

Dave Grenier
Superintendent, PCR Daylight Division

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Upcoming Events

November 7, 2009 - Daylight Division Fall Meet - Gary Siegel's home, Santa Barbara.

December 5, 2009 - Second Annual Fresno/Clovis Layout Tour/Open House

February 6, 2010 - Daylight Division Winter Meet - GEHAMS Clubhouse, Bakersfield

April 28 - May 2, 2010 - Pacific Coast Region / NMRA Silver Rails 2010 Convention, Sparks, Nevada

May 2010 - Daylight Division Spring Meet - Fresno (date and location TBA)

August 2010 - Daylight Division Summer Meet - Open (maybe in Tehachapi)

November 2010 - Daylight Division Fall Meet - Open

July 3 to 9, 2011 - EXTRA 2011 WEST, 2011 NMRA National Convention, Sacramento, California

Want your ad in the Obs? Send a business card along with a check for \$40.00 and we'll print it for the next four issues. See the Obs Editor's address on the back page, or give your card and check to him at a meet.

Industry Liaison Reports Increased Door Prize Donations

By Jay Smith

I want to extend a most heartfelt thank you from the members of the Daylight Division to all of our donors, both new and repeat, for their wonderful support. You have helped to make participation in our meets considerably more fun and enjoyable. Once again I want to encourage the members of the Daylight Division to support those generous donors who have supported us.

Donor List for Daylight Division Meet in Fresno on May 2, 2009.

1. Charlie Worstell of **Tom's Trains** in Fresno
2. Dave & Terri Baker of **Terri's Timeless Treasures** in Clovis
3. Roy Ogle of **Roy's Trains & Things** in Clovis
4. Jon & Kayanne Yung of **Hobby Town, USA** in Fresno
5. **Bar Mills Scale Model Works** of Bar Mills, ME
6. **Broadway Limited Imports** of Ormond Beach, FL
7. John Houlihan of **The Irish Tracklayer** in Fresno
8. **Dave Grenier** of Clovis
9. Jay & Celest Smith of **Creative Promotions Resource** in Clovis

Donors, please forgive our unintended oversight in not mentioning your kind generosity in the July-September 2009 publication of the Branch Line.

Donor List for Daylight Division Meet in San Luis Obispo on August 22, 2009.

1. **Kalmbach Publishing Co.** of Waukesha, WI
2. **Kadee Quality Products Co.** of White City, OR
3. Dave & Terri Baker of **Terri's Timeless Treasures** in Clovis
4. **Dave Grenier** of Clovis
5. Anita Walker of **Central Coast Trains** in Atascadero
6. Andy Reichert of **Proto 87 Stores** at www.proto87.com
7. Jay & Celest Smith of **Creative Promotions Resource** in Clovis

If you have been the recipient of one of these door prizes, take a moment to thank the donor with an e-mail or a note.



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O Gauge Track Products

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Daylight Division Summer Meet

Held in San Luis Obispo

By Chuck Harmon



Neil Fernbaugh's photo was taken from John Bell's viewing platform, showing a meet on Cable Siding a few miles above the Loop

Daylight Division held its summer 2009 meet at the home of Hilding Larson in San Luis Obispo on Saturday, August 22nd with co-hosts San Luis Model Railroad Association and the Thursday Night Boomers. The meet featured the usual clinics, contests and business meeting, plus a hosted lunch, an auction and home layout tours.

Matt Hoffman and Rick Anderson presented a clinic on laying track and making turnouts with a Fast Tracks jig. Paul Deis then talked about his indoor and outdoor layouts, presenting some suggestions on setting givens and druthers for grades, curvature and other parameters. Later in the day Paul held a Golden Spike ceremony on his outdoor layout.

First in the photo contest was Neil Fernbaugh's "UP on Tehachapi.". Ted VanKlaveren's model of Pacific Electric 101 won favorite model.

Internet Links

Daylight Division group:

www.groups.yahoo.com/groups/daylightdivision/join

PCR-NMRA group:

www.groups.yahoo.com/groups/PCR-nmra/join

Daylight Division website:

www.pcrnmra.org/daylight

PCR master calendar:

www.pcrnmra.org/pcr/calendar/mastercalendar.html

We were all treated to a delicious tri-tip sandwich lunch, complete with decadent chocolate cake for dessert. Thanks to Hilding and Carole Larson for the wonderful meal.

After the business meeting there was a spirited raffle and white elephant auction. The \$25 cash door prize was won by Logan Bertollette.

Layout tours included Charlie Burns' N-scale Southern Pacific Coast Route, Paul Deis' HO-scale Southern Pacific and Fn3 D&P Mountain Railroad, George Gibson's HO / Hon3 DK & Pacific Mountain Railway, Andrew Merriam's HO-scale Southern Pacific Coast Line, and The SLOMRA/Oceano

DAYLIGHT DIVISION TREASURY REPORT 8/22/09

DATE	TRANSACTION	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE
8/22/2009	BALANCE FORWARD			\$ 3,066.15
8/22/2009	REGISTRATION		\$ 233.00	\$ 3,299.15
8/22/2009	RAFFLE		\$ 156.00	\$ 3,455.15
8/22/2009	WHITE ELEPHANT		\$ 49.00	\$ 3,504.15
8/22/2009	AUCTION		\$ 32.00	\$ 3,536.15
8/22/2009	LUNCHESES		\$ 276.00	\$ 3,812.15
8/22/2009	DONUTS & DRINKS-JIM KEATING	\$ 40.32		\$ 3,771.83
8/22/2009	ICE-PAUL DEIS	\$ 9.58		\$ 3,762.25
8/22/2009	AUCTION SUPPLIES-TERRY TAYLOR	\$ 13.58		\$ 3,748.67
8/22/2009	STAMPS & COPIES-JAY SMITH	\$ 9.52		\$ 3,739.15
8/22/2009	OBSERVATION-CHUCK HARMON	\$ 237.53		\$ 3,501.62
8/22/2009	LUNCHESES-HILDING LARSON	\$ 276.00		\$ 3,225.62

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The Daylight Observation is published quarterly to inform members of Division activities and to provide educational articles for the advancement of railroad history and the art and science of model railroading. It is distributed to all members of the Division and to officers and newsletter editors of other divisions in the PCR.

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Minutes of the Daylight Division Meeting August 22, 2009

The August meet was held in San Luis Obispo at the home of Hilding Larson. The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by Superintendent Dave Grenier. A motion was made by Chuck Harmon and seconded by Brewster Bird to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as published in the Daylight Observation. The motion carried. A motion was made by Walt Schultz and seconded by Ron Cox to accept the Treasurers report as published in the Daylight Observation. The motion carried. The following bills were submitted: Jim Keating \$40.32 for donuts, soda & water, Jay Smith \$9.52 for stamps and copies, Paul Deis \$9.58 for ice, Terry Taylor \$13.58 for supplies for Auction, and Chuck Harmon \$237.53 for the Observation. A motion was made by Andy Reichert and seconded by Bruce Morden to pay the bills. The motion carried.

John Houlihan reminded everyone about the up-coming PCR board meeting. He is our liaison to the PCR and if you have any concerns about PCR, etc. he is the one to contact. Dave Grenier reported that there were no new Achievement awards in Daylight Division this quarter and reminded us that anyone can submit Golden Spike awards.

The next meet will be November 7, 2009 in Santa Barbara at Gary Siegel's home. Future meets are as follows:

February 6, 2010 – GEHAMS Bakersfield

May 2010 – Fresno (date and time TBA)

August 210 – Open (maybe in Tehachapi)

November – Open

Dave announced that there will be Modeling with the Masters clinics at the Silver Rail PCR convention next year. This will be an extra fare item.

We have decided on name tags for the division and they will be online to order. Price will be \$6.00 to pick up at the meet and \$9.00 to have them mailed.

Superintendent Dave Grenier opened nominations for Director, Superintendent and Chief Clerk/Paymaster. Nominations were:

Director - John Houlihan

Superintendent - Dave Grenier and George Gibson

Chief Clerk/Paymaster – Suzie Paff

Nominations will be open until November 21, 2009.

The favorite photo contest was won by Neil Fernbaugh and favorite model was won by Ted Van Klaveren.

The meeting was adjourned for raffles, White Elephant Auction and Division Auction.

Respectfully Submitted

Suzanne Paff

Chief Clerk/Paymaster



After the meet we visited local layouts, including Andrew Merriam's.



Paul Deis and his wife celebrated the "Golden Spike" on their outdoor layout.



CFC 12286
Federal Employees! For the first time, the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) will be included in your annual Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) to be conducted at your workplace. To offer the NMRA your support please designate #12286 on your CFC contribution form.

The Answers Are Out There Maximum Benefit in the Minimum Space

By Bob Pethoud, Member Services

I get a kick out of train shows. I especially enjoy the vendors with their exciting new products and occasional bargains, and the modular groups with their long freights snaking through sometimes quite realistic scenes. I study the construction, detailing, painting, and weathering of the structures, rolling stock, scenery, and backdrops looking for effects and techniques that I want to try out for myself.

I would like to show off my own modeling skills, but I am too much of a loner to join a modular group. Also, each 2-foot by 4-foot module is bulky, unwieldy, and just plain heavy. Two or three of them, complete with legs and backdrop, will not fit into my car. Recently, though, while attending a train show an idea came to me that would make it possible for one person to carry a complete, fully scenicked, HO scale model railroad in the back seat and trunk of an ordinary automobile. Here's the idea: a model railroad 12 feet long but only 12 to 15 inches wide, divided into three 4-foot sections, with no legs. Since each piece would only be 12 or 15 inches wide and 48 inches long, construction could be of 1x2 and smaller lumber, keeping the weight down. But no legs? Correct. Each train show venue—convention hall, church social hall, school multi-purpose room—comes equipped with tables of standard height. The tables with folding legs can be 4, 5, 6, or 8 feet long and 18, 24, 30, or 36 inches wide, but they are almost always 29 inches high. Two or three of these tables will support the railroad and place it at a good viewing height for anyone sitting at the table. Folding chairs are also always available at these venues. Be aware, though, that another result is that the railroad is now at a height convenient for children. That's good, that they can see better, but bad that it's easier for them to touch. Now it's true that we don't normally view train show railroads from a sitting position, but this would be the perfect way to solve a switching puzzle, and that's what I propose here. This is to be not just a diorama with scenery, structures, backdrop, and an occasional train lumbering past, but an operating layout, preferably with DCC and sound. So what kind of HO scale railroad can be 12 feet long and only 1 foot wide? I would suggest a small yard representing a single industry with many spotting locations, or the end of a branch line with several small industries, or even a short section of main line with a runaround and a few spurs. In an earlier column I described my "Switcheroo" switching layout, which includes a runaround, three spurs, and a switchback, all in a length of 8 feet and a width of 11 inches, so it could actually be expanded for this project! Now my goal is to build one of these railroads and display and operate it at the NMRA national convention in Sacramento in 2011. Who is with me? Until next time, you can reach me at pethoud@comcast.net



Ted VanKlaveren's beautiful very large scale model of Pacific Electric 101 won favorite model at SLO.



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Achievement Program

Model Railroad Engineer - Electrical

By Dave Grenier

In this installment we will review the requirements for the Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical certificate. While the requirements for this certificate may seem long and daunting, they really aren't. It just seems that way because there are so many options for you to choose from.

As is true with many of the AP certificates, don't read more into the requirements and make them more difficult than they are. Commercial products may be used throughout, unless noted otherwise. You may build some things from scratch only if you chose to, but it is not necessary to complete the requirements for the certificate.

There is no requirement for Merit Judging in this certificate. The presence and operation of the required features must be verified by a witness (the Region AP Manager or their designee) on the Record and Validation Form, but they do not have to be judged and achieve a minimum score.

You don't have to do all the work on a single layout – you can do some on your own layout, your club's layout, and some on a garden railroad. For fans of three-rail or overhead wire layouts out there, the work on your layouts may also be considered for ALL aspects of the Achievement Program.

The first requirement is to construct and demonstrate on own or club layout, the satisfactory operation of an electrical control system capable of simultaneous and independent control of two mainline trains in either direction, and containing at least: 1) Five electrical blocks (for conventional DC) or sufficient gaps and switches to maintain polarity and troubleshooting (for DCC); 2) One mainline passing siding; 3) One reversing loop, wye, turntable, or transfer table; 4) One yard with at least three tracks and a switching lead independent of the mainline; 5) Facilities for storing at least two unused units of motive power; 6) One power supply with protective devices.

The second requirement is to wire and demonstrate the electrical operation of at least three of the following items: 1) Turnout; 2) Crossing; 3) Crossover; 4) Double crossover; 5) Slip switch (single or double); 6) Gauge separation turnout; 7) Double junction turnout; 8) Three way turnout; 9) Gauntlet turnout; 10) Spring switch; 11) Operating switch in overhead wire. (Commercial products are allowed on all of these.)

The third requirement is to wire and demonstrate the electrical operation of at least three of the following items: 1) Electrical turnout position indication on a control panel for at least four turnouts; 2) Track occupancy indication on a control panel or at trackside for at least five blocks; 3) Cab control, making provision for connection of at least two power supplies to a minimum of five blocks as the train progresses; 4) Engine terminal, including and electrically powered turntable or transfer table, for a minimum of 5 tracks to store unused locomotives; 5) Two turnout junctions with interlocking and signals to prevent a train from going through a turnout set against it; 6) High frequency lighting (Constant lighting); 7) Electronic throttle with inertia and braking systems; 8) Grade crossing with actuated warning indication; 9) Two-way blocking signaling with train detection for at least five blocks; 10) Operating overhead wire or catenary; 11) Installation of advanced electronic or computer control system; 12) Design, installation, and operation of animated mechanical and/or electrical displays; 13) Design, installation, and operation of mechanical and/or electrical layout displays; 14) Installation of a command control receiver, requiring modification of device's wiring. (Installing a plug-equipped device into a prewired socket is not sufficient); 15) Installation of a command control throttle buss line around a layout capable of handling at least two throttles at three or more separate locations.

Commercially assembled complete units are not acceptable for the third requirement in the following items: 16) Construction and installation of a sound system (This does not have to be an on-board system; it could be an under layout system); 17) Construction and installation of a signaling system; 18) Development and installation of a CTC system; 19) Installation and operation of an on-board video system; 20) Computer generated block detection information; 21) Hardwired or stored control program (computer) for layout operation; 22) Development and

Model Railroad Engineer - Electrical (Continued)

demonstration of a computer-to-railroad interface; 23) Other, including flashing warning lights on locomotives or end-of-train devices on cabooses.

The fourth requirement is to prepare a schematic drawing of the propulsion circuitry of the model railroad used to satisfy the first requirement, showing the gaps, blocks, feeders, speed and direction control, electrical switches, and power supplies. You do not have to show the turnout control, signaling, or structure lighting wiring on this drawing.

The fifth requirement is to prepare schematic drawings identifying the wiring and components of the six items used to satisfy the second and third requirements. This should be separate from the propulsion circuitry schematic for the fourth requirement.

After completing the above five requirements, submit a completed Statement of Qualification, including the track plan, description of each of the features used, including construction methods and commercial products used to satisfy the requirements, the signed Record & Validation Form, along with a copy of your NMRA membership card, to the PCRAP Manager, Jack Burgess.

The full requirements for this category are available on the NMRA website at http://www.nmra.org/education/achievement/ap_electric.html. You can also get a copy of the requirements by contacting me, either by phone, e-mail, or letter. Also look at the *Scale Rails*, August 2008 issue, page 10, for a very informative article, complete with drawings and samples of what it takes to earn this certificate. If you have any questions or want to learn more about the Achievement Program or Golden Spike Award, call me at (559) 297-1345 or e-mail me at grenida@pacbell.net

Next installment: Model Railroad Engineer – Chief Dispatcher

SLO Auction Report

By Joe Paff

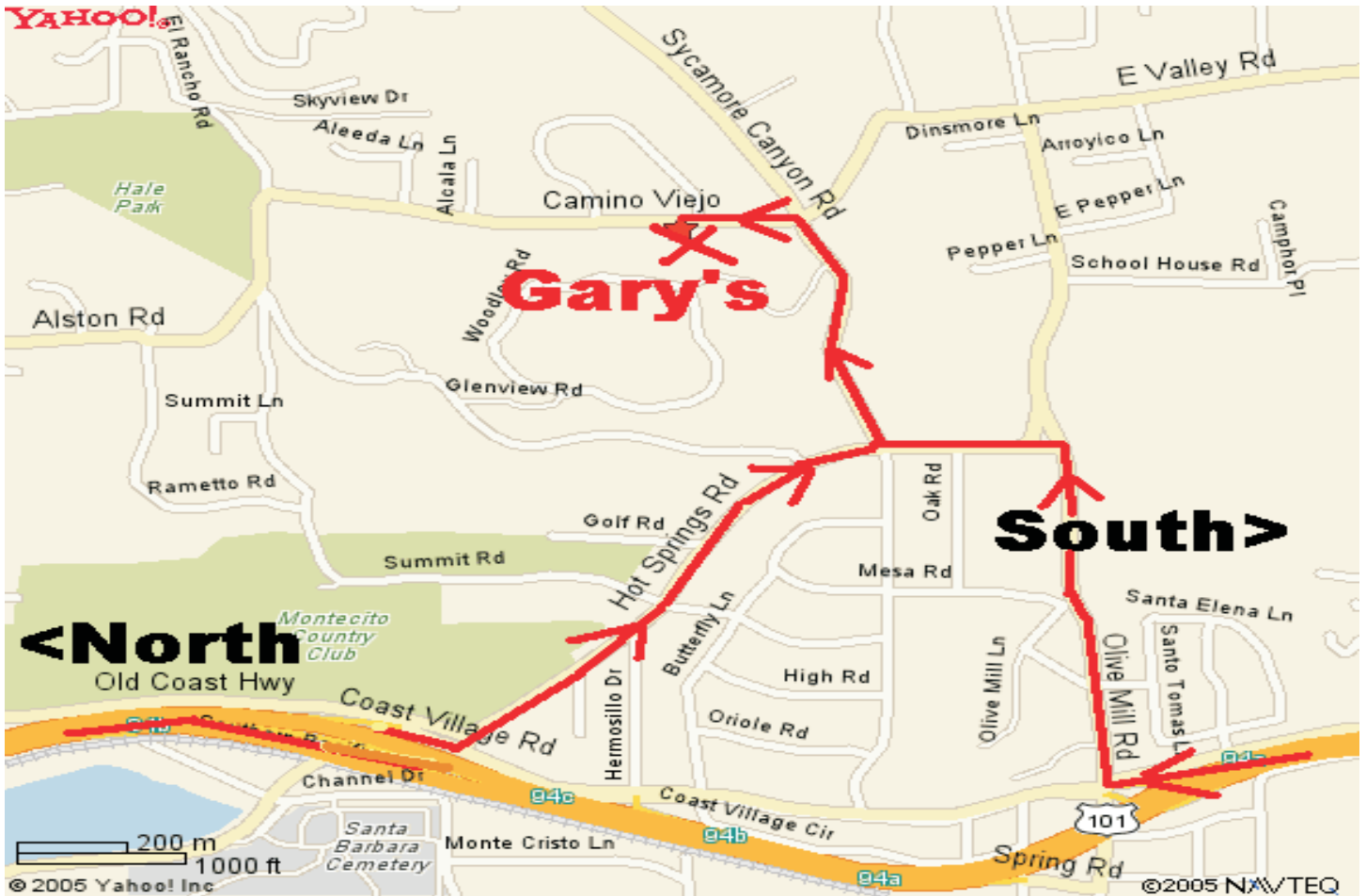
The auction was well attended by sellers and bidders and it appeared that the attendees were satisfied overall with the auction. Sellers received an aggregate total of \$288.45 for their treasures and the Division received \$32.05 for our efforts. For our first regular auction, I feel it went pretty well.

For those who don't know us, my name is Joe Paff and I have been named the new and 1st Division Auction Chairman. Suzie and I have been active in model railroading and the NMRA since the late 70's. We took a hiatus from the social (including the NMRA) part of model railroading for a few years, but you can't keep true model railroaders out of circulation.



100 items were offered
in the auction

As we stated prior to the SLO meet, the Daylight auction is a work in process. We are still learning what works for the Daylight Division. We modeled our auction after the Coast Division auction, but the Daylight Division is not the Coast Division. We have vastly different dynamics and what works for them may not work well for us. A major difference is the travel time between the different meet locations that can make coordination difficult. We also have fewer members and they are broken up into 4 main and 3 or 4 minor sub-divisions (population clusters), each with varying ideas on how things should be done. I am working on an operations manual that we can dissect and see if we can get an auction that suits us all. I thank you for your patience and support.



Map to the meet



Daylight Observation
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Fresno, CA 93720-2756

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