

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MAY 5 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

By Rich Kolm, PCR Secretary

*The Annual Business Meeting of members of the Pacific Coast Region is held in conjunction with the PCR Convention each year.*

President and Trustee Ray deBlieck called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM on Sunday, May 5, 2002 at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center in Redding, California. There were 48 PCR members present. The minutes of the Annual Business Meeting on May 6, 2001 in San Luis Obispo, California, were approved.

Secretary Rich Kolm gave a summary of the Board Meeting (see *Highlights of the May 1 Board of Directors Meeting*). As a result of the recent election, Ron Plies is the new Director from Redwood Empire Division. The incumbents in the other Divisions will continue on the Board. Dwayne Coate repeated what he told the Board about looking into creating a new separate Division in what is now the northern part of the Sierra Division.

President deBlieck acknowledged three new Regional appointments:

- Chuck Mitchell is Chairperson of the new Education Committee.
- Rod Smith is Chairperson of the new Member Aid Committee.
- Mary Moore-Campagna is the new Chairperson for Non-Rail Activities.

Trustee deBlieck described the NMRA proposals for single membership and reorganization of the Board of Trustees to streamline its operation. He said there are still a lot of unanswered questions. He and former PCR Trustee Charlie Getz will attend a special meeting in Chicago in a few weeks to work out the details of these proposals, which will then go to the full Board of Trustees at Ft. Lauderdale in July. Bob Ferguson, PCR Member Services Chairperson, will help critique the plan that comes out of the Chicago meeting. The reorganization will include new NMRA By-Laws to replace the current Constitution and By-Laws, which will have to go the membership for approval.

Gene Mayer, PCR's Long Range Planning Chairperson, described his Committee's Interim Report submitted to the Board of Directors with recommendations for programs at the Divisions for membership retention and for attracting new members. He needs feedback from members by July so the Final Report can be submitted to the Board in the fall. Copies of the report are available by e-mail from him or Secretary Rich Kolm.

The PCR By-Laws and Manual of Operations have been updated to incorporate amendments adopted since 1995 and retyped as digital files. The Board approved the Manual of Operations on May 1. The members present at this meeting approved the By-Laws.

President deBlieck said agendas for upcoming PCR meetings, minutes of meetings, and the PCR By-Laws and Manual of Operations will be posted on the official PCR website as Acrobat PDF files. He pointed out that content of e-mail messages and files posted on the PCR Yahoo Group website are not controlled by PCR.

The 2003 PCR Convention “Tri-Valley Zephyr” will be hosted by the Coast Division, April 23-27 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Pleasanton. Registrar Jack Wall said 45 people have already registered. The 2004 PCR Convention will be hosted by the Napa Valley Railroaders and Redwood Empire Division at the Chateau Hotel and Conference Center in Napa.

Members made suggestions for PCR’s new Education Committee including going to parents groups at schools and making use of materials available from the World’s Greatest Hobby program.

The next Annual Business Meeting will be at the 2003 PCR Convention in Pleasanton.

RLK 5/9/02