

## **Pacific Coast Region of the NMRA**

### **HIGHLIGHTS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING May 15, 2005**

By Rich Kolm, PCR Secretary

President L.E. “Gene” Mayer called the meeting to order at 9:10 am at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Concord. There were 53 PCR members present.

Vice-President Dave Connery commented on amendments to the Manual of Operations and the By-Laws pointing out the need for changes under the new NMRA Regulations. Treasurer Larry Altbaum commented on the financial status of PCR and the revised FY2005 Budget approved by the Board. Secretary Rich Kolm described the highlights of the May 11 Board meeting. Trustee Ray deBlieck said Bob Ferguson was elected the Director representing the Regional Advisory Council on the new NMRA Board of Directors, The results of the election of Directors to eight other seats on the NMRA Board will be known soon.

In the recent PCR election, L.E. “Gene” Mayer was re-elected President and Dave Connery was re-elected Vice-President. They took office as the first item of new business. President Mayer announced that Larry Altbaum and Rich Kolm agreed to continue as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

The proposed amendments to the PCR By-Laws were summarized by Vice-President Connery and Secretary Kolm. They were approved by the members on a voice vote. The amendments (a) add a brief description of the corporation, (b) change the membership definitions to conform to the new NMRA Regulations, (c) eliminate the reference to Regional dues, (d) allow the Region and Divisions to establish activity and subscription fees, (e) delete references to the PCR Trustee, (f) add provisions regarding PCR’s representation on the new NMRA Regional Advisory Council, and (g) update the language regarding PCR’s official publication. The By-Laws will now be sent on to NMRA for review.

The new program of PCR publications was discussed. There were a number of comments and questions from members regarding the Board’s decision to set a subscription fee for the *Branch Line*. There were also comments about the need to notify members by e-mail when the *Branch Line* is posted on the PCR website. President Mayer pointed out that he is appointing a committee to study the issue of Regional financial support for Division newsletters.

Bill Swindell, Chairperson of this 2005 Convention, thanked the Committee and especially Bob Ferguson for their work in making it a success. Bob Warner, Chairperson of the 2006 Convention in Sacramento, described the program for “River City Express.” Kevin Hurley, Chairperson of the 2007 Convention in Santa Cruz, talked about plans for “Suntan Special.”

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am. This was followed by the drawing for door prizes and the Convention’s presentation of awards.