



# Spur Line

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Arizona Division, PSR, NMRA

January 2006

## Spring Meet - Arizona Division, PSR, NMRA Saturday, March 4, 2006 - Phoenix, Arizona

**Depot:** First Southern Baptist Church of Phoenix  
3100 W. Camelback Rd, Phoenix, Arizona (See locator map on Page 6)

### Registration:

\$7.00 - Coffee Provided

\$3.00 - If NMRA member under 21 years of age. (Bring your membership card.)

FREE - If you join the NMRA and PSR at Registration.

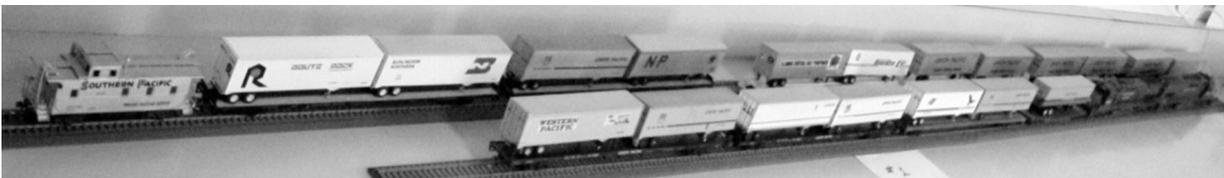
### Schedule:

- 9:00 AM - Registration opens. Enter contests until noon.
- 10:00 AM - CLINIC - DCC decoders in older engines - Richard Dick
- 11:00 AM - Business Meeting - door prize drawings.
- 11:30 AM - Break for lunch at a restaurant of your choice.
- 1:00 PM - CLINIC - Ski Train - Don Stewart
- 2:15 PM - CLINIC - Sound Traxx Tsunami product line - Bruce Petrarca
- 3:30 PM - Announce contest winners, door prize drawings.

**Contests:** A full slate of NMRA contests is planned. Also included are Levity and Favorite Train. The Levity theme will be "Diesel Locos" and the Favorite Train category will be "Tank cars", with a maximum of ten units, plus power. You must be a member of the NMRA and any region to enter contests. You may join at registration. As usual, there will be a Favorite Model contest. Bring your favorite model and share it with all who attend. There will be the ever popular photo contest. Give our contests a try. You may win an award.

**Swap Meet:** Tables will be available at 8:30 AM after the sellers' registration is paid. There is no fee for tables, but only Arizona Division members are allowed to sell. Anybody can buy! Please only one table per seller until everybody has a table.

**Raillettes:** Make a floating bead necklace and earring set. All supplies will be available for you to make a set to keep or give as a gift. There will be a choice of colors. This project should take both the morning and afternoon sessions.



Favorite Train  
By: Hal Fritz  
(Photo by: Anna  
Taylor © 2005)

## Superintendent's Corner

By: Rick Wheeler

Greetings to the Arizona Division

The Good News --

Our Tucson Division Meet entertained 84 rails and raiettes. Clinics were interesting and informative. I learned a lot and put on my first clinic. Eight raiettes did scrapbooking and origami to get ready for the holidays. Over 40 of us met at the Golden Corral for food and fellowship. A big thanks to the N scale Arizona & Southern Model Railroad Society for setting up their modules at the Jr. League. We had 10 layouts open for your pleasure on Saturday & Sunday.

I want to thank all the Division supporters who donated door prizes: Ace Hobby, Hobbytown, Affair with Trains, Cochise County Modelers, John Lovely, Duane Buck and Don Stewart.

The Bad News --

I remember the startling realization in the late 1970's when the Division had to increase the registration cost of each meet from \$3 to \$5. I was disappointed, but I continued to come to the meets and I have enjoyed every meet since that fee increase. The Division costs keep rising-hall rental, postage, advertising and contest awards. Also the new NMRA changes will increase costs for the Division. Therefore, the new registration fee will increase by \$2, from \$5. to \$7. As in the past, exact payment will double the door prize tickets, Joining the NMRA will give you free admission to the Division Meet. For NMRA members under 21 years of age with a membership card the cost is \$3.00.

Your Division Committee is now working on the 2007 PSR Convention to be held in Tucson on Sept. 5th through 9th 2007. Plan to attend. We are looking for layouts in Southern Arizona for the Convention. Start now putting the finishing touches on your layout.

See you at the Phoenix Meet on March 4th 2006 at the 1st Southern Baptist Church.

***Happy Railroading!***

## Chief Clerk & Paymaster Report

By: Jack Debolt

We had a great turnout for the November meet in Tucson, with 84 registered attendees. In addition to 60 adult members we had 24 adults as guests. One adult guest joined as a new NMRA-PSR member. It was great to have so many guests but note that there were no youth attendees registered. For the Phoenix meet let's try to have some under 21 young people among our guests.

### AZ Division Account

Account Balance as of 7/29/05 \$9442.65

#### Income:

Proceeds from Summer '05 Meet	\$415.00
PSR 2003 Convention, Final Disbursement	\$65.00
Fund Raising Project Sales	\$16.00
Donations	\$1.00

Total Income: \$497.00

#### Expenses:

Flyer Postage – Fall '05	\$28.30
Kwik Kopy – Fall '05 Newsletter	\$385.65
Division Awards	\$96.95
Raiette Expenses– Fall '05	\$120.00
Meeting Expense, Tucson Facility Rental	\$150.00
Bank Maintenance Fees (Aug. – Dec. 05)	\$1.76
Total Expenses:	(\$782.66)

Account Balance as of 12/30/05 \$9156.99



Structures - Open First Place: 1950's A&W Root Beer Drive-In - By: Alan Olson

( Photo by: Anna Taylor © 2005)

***Bring a friend and a  
contest entry !***

## Director's Report

By: Duane Buck

I want to open by thanking all of you who made the effort to vote in the Director's election last summer. Believe it, or not, your votes are a source of encouragement for all elected NMRA officials.

To better administer the Arizona Division, an Advisory Panel has been formed. This panel is comprised of six members. They are Rick Wheeler, Richard Dick, Roger Von Seeburg, Don Stewart, Charles Stewart and David Irick. By sharing ideas, we hope to better serve the Arizona Division membership.

As many of you may already be aware, PSR membership dues have been eliminated under the new NMRA reorganization plan. This means that all NMRA members residing in the Pacific Southwest Region automatically become PSR members and that subsequently, all members residing in Arizona will automatically become members of the Arizona Division without paying additional dues. According to information received from the Region Membership Chair, Debbie Draper, there are currently 402 members in Arizona.

As your new Arizona Division Director, I want to invite your attention to our financial situation.

When it comes to finances, we as a Division are completely self supporting. We derive our income from two main sources.

The first is from the registration fees collected at the Division meets. Since 1991, the meet attendance numbers have steadily declined. With the increasing costs of meet venues, a decision has been made to increase registration fees. Starting with the March 4, 2006 meet in Phoenix, the fee will be \$7.00 for adults and \$3.00 for those under 21.

The second source of income has been from the Regional convention that is hosted by the Division every four years. In this area we have been very fortunate that a profit has been realized through an excellent management process. This money is being used to cover most of the current expenses. However, with conventions there is never a guarantee that there will be a profit.

The Division has three primary expenses as follows:

## Achievement Program

By: Don Stewart

The Achievement program has been relatively quiet recently in the Arizona Division, so I want to invigorate it a little. At the March Division meet I will have some flyers and a summary of the Achievement program. I will also have some information on getting started. It doesn't take a huge effort to get many of the Certificates. In some cases just volunteering your time to help can earn you a certificate (Association Volunteer). The summary will be available at the registration desk and additional information can be obtained by seeing me during the day.

Building better models is a pleasant result of the Achievement Program. Entering contests or carefully studying the work of others will help you develop your skills. The result is more satisfaction with the hobby and yourself. Sometimes just small details can turn an average model into a masterpiece. I'll be happy to show you around the contest room and the Achievement Program. Just ask.

*Continued from column 1*

- The first is the cost of printing and mailing the SPUR LINE. A plan to reduce these costs is currently being considered.
- The second is the facility cost for Division meets. Since most facilities demand comparable prices, there is little opportunity for savings in this area.
- The third is the cost of contest awards. Without sacrificing quality, a new source is being sought. Thus far this effort has shown the possibility of saving 25% from past award costs.

To sum up the financial situation, the Division engages in deficit spending each year. Although we may never reach the "break even" point, the goal is to reduce the amount of this deficit to ensure adequate funds for future Division activities.

Present plans are to host the Regional convention in Tucson during 2007. These conventions are normally held during the month of September. A convention committee has been formed. You are encouraged to help with this endeavor. Please contact Rick Wheeler, Richard Dick or myself. We need your assistance and talents.

I hope to see all of you at the Division meet in Phoenix on March 4.

## Contest Results – Tucson Meet

November 6, 2004

### Model Construction: (\* Indicates Merit Award)

#### Structures - Open

1st Alan Olson 1950's A&W Root Beer Drive-In\*  
 2nd Bob Nuss Tavern/Beer Hall with Wedding Party  
 3rd Bob Nuss Apartment Building with Pool

#### Structures - Kit

1st Jim Homan Nagel Hardware and Feed\*

#### Best of Show

Alan Olson D & RGW Jordan Spreader\*

Note: In the category where there was no first place winner, there was an insufficient point total (76) to allow a first place award in accordance with Arizona Division Contest Rules.

#### Favorite Train ( Piggyback Flat Cars)

1st Hal Fritz SP and UP Piggyback Train

### Photography

#### Model – Color

1st James Cooley Coming into Town.  
 2nd James Cooley Working on the Railroad

#### Prototype – Color

1st Phil Everett Nevada Northern #93  
 2nd Phil Everett "Sheep"  
 3rd Alan Greger CB&Q #5632

# *Congratulations!*



Structures - Open Third Place: Apartment Building with Pool - By: Bob Nuss

## From the Contest Room

by: Duane Buck

After last year's turnout of 15 models at the Tucson meet, only five models this year was a disappointment. Not disappointing though, was the quality of the models. Of the five, three received merit awards.

Hal Fritz was the winner of the Larry Manny Award for the 2004-2005 period. This award is given for the best quality structure model entered into a judged Division contest over a two year period. The next award period will be 2006-2007 and presentation will be made at the last Division meet of 2007.

For those of you who may not remember Larry Manny, he was the Division Contest Chairman for a good many years. Larry brought expertise, humor and innovations to the contest room. Unfortunately, he met his untimely demise at the hands of a murderer.

Get your models and photos ready for the March 4, 2006 meet in Phoenix



Structures - Open Second Place: Tavern/Beer Hall with Wedding Party - By: Bob Nuss

( Photo by: Anna Taylor © 2005)

# *Hope to see you in Phoenix on March 4.*

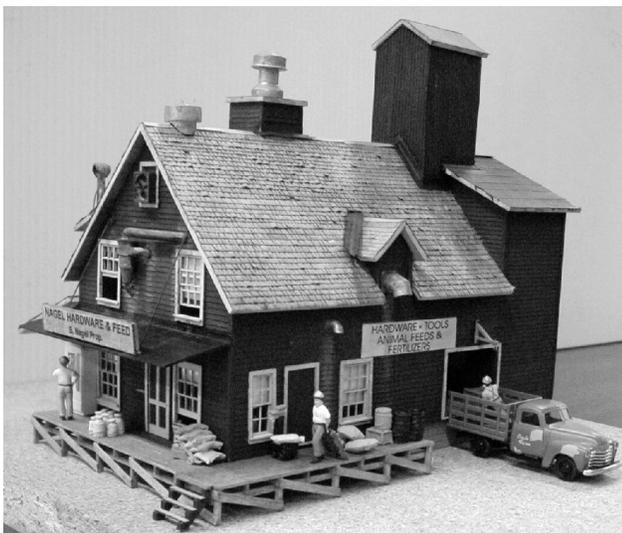
## Railettes

By: Janet Spooner

Ladies, if you were not able to make it to the Tucson meet in November you really missed a great time. The morning was spent placing photographs in memory album cards that were then embellished. Each of the 12 ladies present made their own card. These memory cards were then sent to friends, relatives, or kept to show. A note from my personal experience, the cousin I sent the one I made was ecstatic over receiving the card. It showed 4 generations of her family and she said it even included some photos she had never seen. She actually cried over it. We were led in this effort by scrapbooking teacher Jennifer England.

In the afternoon, we switched gears and were shown how to do some exotic origami by our own expert Anna Taylor. Each of the ladies made three items. Much to our surprise each item turned out extremely well done. Shows what a good teacher we had in Anna. A great big thank you for the time and sharing of your talent with us, Anna.

So much for the November meet. On to the meet in March in Phoenix. At this point, the plan calls for us to make a floating bead necklace and earring set. All supplies will be available for you to make a set to take and either give as a gift or use yourself. You will have a choice of color that you wish to make this set in. This project should take both the morning and afternoon session, so come prepared to work.



Structures - Kit First Place: Nagel Hardware and Feed  
- By: Jim Homan (Photo by: Anna Taylor © 2005)

## Arizona Division Roster

### Director - Duane Buck

10 Broken Lance Way buckgnry@msn.com  
Sedona, AZ 86351-8928

### Superintendent - Rick Wheeler

520.818.1547  
62451 E Amberwood Dr elisarick@wbhsi.com  
Saddlebrooke, AZ 85739-1840

### Chief Clerk & Paymaster - Jack W. Debolt

5905 N. Calle Tiburon 520.887.8870  
Tucson, AZ 85704-1727  
jackandnancyd1@comcast.net

### Membership Chairman - Pete Kaczmarowski

1119 N. Gibson St. 480.926.7940  
Gilbert, AZ 85234-3331 EMDGP30@aol.com

### Contest Chairman - Duane Buck

10 Broken Lance Way buckgnry@msn.com  
Sedona, AZ 86351-8928

### Achievement Program Division Manager

**Don Stewart** 480.759.5019  
2722 E. Bighorn Ave. snpcw@cox.net  
Phoenix, AZ 85048-8984

### Nominations Chairman - Lenny Smith

1747 N. Gilbert Ave. 520.836.7683  
Casa Grande, AZ 85222-2102  
lamber@cgmailbox.com

### Raillette Chair - Janet Spooner

623.977.6760  
16013 North 99th Drive  
Sun City, AZ 85351 JSpooner86@aol.com

### Spur Line Editor - Raymond Taylor

520.586.4557  
1118 E. Sonora Verde Drive  
Benson, AZ 85602 SpurLinePSR@yahoo.com

### Arizona Division Web Site:

[www.getnet.net/~dickg/nmra/azdiv/azdiv](http://www.getnet.net/~dickg/nmra/azdiv/azdiv)



Best of Show: D & RGW Jordan Spreader -  
By: Alan Olson (Photo by: Anna Taylor © 2005)

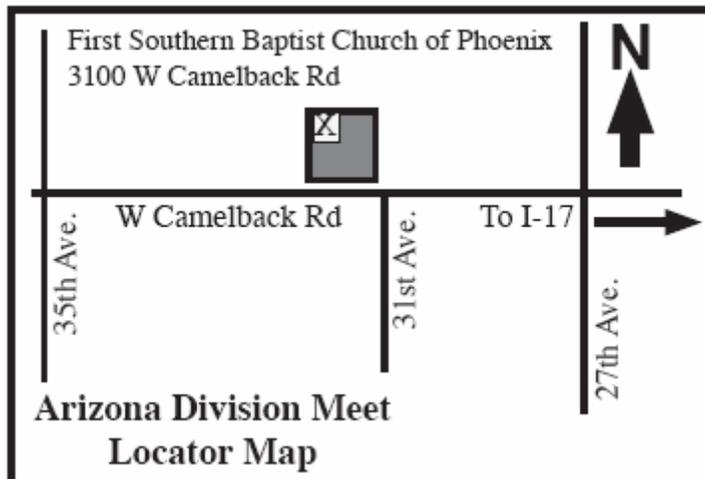
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**Saturday, March 4, 2006**  
**Phoenix, Arizona**



From I-17, exit at Camelback Road. Turn west. There is a traffic light at 27th Ave. The First Southern Baptist Church of Phoenix is located at the northwest quadrant of the 31st Ave and Camelback intersection. Go past 31st Ave. and turn into the parking lot. There will be signs directing you to the correct building.

*Happy New Year!*

*Support your local  
Hobby Shop!*

### ~ Coming Events ~

August 12, 2006 - **Arizona Division Summer Meet**  
-Federated Community Church, 400 W Aspen Ave,  
Flagstaff, AZ.

October 11 to 15, 2006 - **"Back to the Future"** PSR  
Convention sponsored by the San Diego Division.  
The convention will be held at the Ramada Inn &  
Conference Center.

November 2006 - **Arizona Division Fall Meet** - Jr.  
League of Tucson