



# SPUR LINE

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Volume 42 Issue 1

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Arizona Division, PSR, NMRA

January 2008

## SPRING MEET - ARIZONA DIVISION, PSR, NMRA Saturday, March 1, 2008 - Phoenix, Arizona

**DEPOT** First Southern Baptist Church of Phoenix  
3100 W. Camelback Rd, Phoenix, Arizona (See locator map on last page)

**REGISTRATION** \$7.00 - Coffee Provided; FREE - If you join the NMRA at Registration.  
\$3.00 - If NMRA member under 21 years of age. (Bring your membership card.)

### SCHEDULE

- 9:00 am - Registration opens. Enter contests until noon.
- 10:00 am - CLINIC: Gasoline Station evolution from its start in the late 1880's up to today's modern stations - Richard Wehr
- 11:00 am - Business Meeting and door prize drawings
- 11:30 am - Break for lunch at a restaurant of your choice
- 1:00 pm - CLINIC: Modeling Eagles - Art Carlton
- 2:30 pm - CLINIC: Measuring Prototype Structures for Modeling - Kevin Looff and Rick Watson
- 3:30 pm - Announce contest winners, door prize drawings.

### CONTESTS

A full slate of NMRA contests is planned. Also included are Levity, Favorite Train and the ever popular photo contest. The Levity theme will be "Flat Cars". The Favorite Train category will be flat cars, with loads, to consist of a maximum of ten units, plus motive power. Bring your favorite model for the popular vote Favorite model contest and share it with other attendees. You must be a member of the NMRA to enter contests.

*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.

*\*Please note all swap meet sellers must be NMRA members and must register.*

**RAIETTES:** A fun & exciting project activity is planned for the ladies. We promise that you are going to laugh and have a good time making it. Come join in on the fun!

## SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

*BY: RICK WHEELER (RETIRING)*

**Greetings to the Arizona Division!**

My two terms as Superintendent of the Arizona Division are now completed and new officers have been elected and are leading the Division. I am proud to have been your Superintendent for the past 4 years and I hope the Division has been a service to everyone. With the high quality of clinics during my terms, I believe everyone has learned much. I certainly have.

The Regional Convention held in Tucson in September hosted 163 attendees from Arizona and California and was enjoyable to all.

The Division has a strong cadre of volunteers through out the State and I cannot thank each one enough for their help and support. Our new leaders, Rick Watson, Art Carlton and Richard Dick have new ideas to make the Division even better. Let us give them all the support and help we can to make the ARIZONA DIVISION the best Division in the NMRA. Again thank you all for your support and participation.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

*BY: ART CARLTON*

**Something old and something new.**

As your new Superintendent, I would like to thank all of the members of the Division for their support and trust in me with this position. On behalf of the Division, I would like to give a big thank you to Rick Wheeler. It is obvious he has provided over the past four years a lot of dedicated time and hard work as Superintendent. I just hope I can fill his shoes by doing the same. The next time you see Rick, please take a moment and thank him personally... I have and all he does is giggle.

There are existing programs I would like to continue and new programs to implement. I know I may sound like a broken record on the existing programs, but they are the core essentials to NMRA and the hobby in general.

### **Something old:**

The first, and most important, item is to challenge each of you to participate in the Achievement Pro-

gram by entering your models in the contest. It was very disappointing to see the lack of models in Tucson. To those who did enter models, I thank you.

The second item is membership and it is a two-fold topic. The first fold involves the attendance at the meet. If I recall correctly, Rick Watson advised me there are approximately 390 members in the Division. However, we only see less than a quarter of members at the meets. Therefore, I am encouraging and begging each of you to help us increase our attendance at the meets. So, please come to the next meet. It will be a pleasure to see you.

The second fold involves the numbers of model railroads, or a lack there of. According to "Model Railroader" magazine, there are approximately quarter-million model railroaders in the United States. That's about 12% of the population of Maricopa County. I have a hard time believing there are not more model railroaders out there wanting for some one to bring them out of hiding. Therefore, my third challenge to you is to bring someone new to the next meet and introduce him or her to NMRA and the "World's Greatest Hobby." The future of the hobby lies in our hands.

The third item involves clinics. Model Railroaders enjoy passing on their wealth of knowledge to others. This is obvious by all of the critics we have in the audience at our meets. So, again I challenge you to sign up to do a clinic. Pass on that wealth of knowledge to all of us. I learned quite a bit in Tucson. At the meet, airbrushing techniques from Duane Buck, and basic DCC and electronics from Bruce Petrarca. I hear the clinics at the Phoenix meet will be just as good.

### **Something new:**

With the first meet of our new officers under our belts, we have already begun to work on new programs. Some of which include updating the Bylaws, developing a new Division web site, and trying to find a way to introduce the younger generations to partake in model railroading.

The later is what I would like to drive home in this Superintendent's Corner. As stated before, we have a wealth of knowledge to pass on especially to the younger generation. So once again, I challenge you to be a mentor to someone of the younger generation and introduce him or her to our hobby. Last week I had an opportunity to do a presentation at Central Arizona College on model railroading. By the time I was done,

*Continued on page 8*

**DIRECT FROM THE DIRECTOR**

*BY: RICK WATSON*

This is my first report as the new Arizona Division Director. As my first order of business, I would like to publicly recognize Duane Buck for his efforts as Division Director for the past two years. Next, I would like to thank retiring Superintendent Rick Wheeler and retiring Chief Clerk and Paymaster Jack DeBolt, for their work in the division. Please allow me to welcome new Superintendent Art Carlton and new Chief Clerk and Paymaster Richard Dick. I look forward to continuing the efforts of our predecessors and growing the membership.

I would also like to thank Duane Buck for the fine work he has done as Contest Chair for the PSR and the Arizona Division. Duane has done a terrific job and it's with mixed emotions that I recognize Duane's decision to retire from these roles during 2008. While we have already identified Kevin Loeff as Duane's successor for Arizona, there is an opening for a PSR Contest Chair. Please contact PSR President Ben Sevier if you're interested in becoming the next regional chair.

In September, I attended the regional convention in Tucson. Wow! What a great event! Hats off to the entire group who put on the event. I attended clinics each day and learned a ton of new stuff. Unfortunately, I couldn't attend all the clinics, but I heard great feedback from everyone I spoke with. Thanks to all the clinicians for their great work! True to his reputation, Charlie Getz was very entertaining as the banquet's guest speaker. I had the opportunity to participate in operating sessions on Gary Guitierrez's SP Miami Branch and Paul Chandler's SP Lathrop Division. Thank you gentlemen for your gracious hosting of the sessions. I thoroughly enjoyed myself. Finally, I would like to thank to all who entered the contests and congratulations to the winners!

On November 10, we hosted our fall Division Meet in Tucson. The turnout was good and the clinics were very interesting and informative. Thanks to Duane, the Scottsdale Model Railroad Club guys, and Bruce! Unfortunately the turnout for the contest room was less than stellar. Hopefully we can get more models entered at our upcoming meets. The meets schedule

for 2008 are in Phoenix (March), Flagstaff (June), and Tucson (November). The specific dates page 7. I'd like to encourage Arizona Division members to attend!

Lastly, I am looking forward to my upcoming term as Division Director. We have a number of opportunities ahead of us and I'm looking forward to the future success of the Arizona Division.

**CHIEF CLERK & PAYMASTER REPORT**  
*BY: JACK DEBOLT (RETIRING)*

As this is my final report as CC&P I would like to say I have really enjoyed serving in this position. I hope I have been of assistance. It has been an opportunity to get to better know many of our members. Thanks to all who have assisted me during these last four years. I would like to welcome Richard Dick as our new Chief Clerk and Paymaster.

We had 56 registered for the November meet in Tucson. In addition to 44 members we had 12 guests. One of our guests joined as a new NMRA-PSR member.

Account Balance as of June 22, 2007 \$ 6972.28

Income:

Attendance fees from November 07 Meet \$ 385.00

Reimbursement from 07 Convention \*\$ 100.74

Total Income: \$ 485.74

Expenses:

Flyer Postage – November 10, 07 Meet \$ 29.82

Kwik Kopy – November 10, 07 Spur Line \$ 521.00

Meeting Expense, Tucson Facility \$ 225.00

Raillette Expenses – November 10, 07 Meet \$ 80.25

Office Expenses \$ 20.50

Division Awards \$ 33.34

07 Convention Cars \$ 1652.55

07 Convention Car Loads \$ 462.30

Bank Fee \$ 6.34

Total Expenses: (\$ 3031.10)

**Account Balance - December 4, 2007 \$4426.92**

\* Reimbursement for costs of convention insert into Spur Line

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT: [www.AzDiv-NMRA.org](http://www.AzDiv-NMRA.org)**

## A NOTE FROM THE NEW CHIEF CLERK & PAYMASTER

*BY: RICHARD DICK*

First of all, I would like to thank Jack for his work the last four years as the Arizona Division Chief Clerk/Paymaster. He has already given me several boxes of merchandise and reports! He and I will work together to transition the finances of the Arizona Division.

As Paymaster for the PSR Convention 2007, I will be making a deposit to the Arizona Division in the next month or so for the cars and other items sold at the Convention here in Tucson last September. If you remember, the Arizona Division traditionally purchases the Convention cars and the Convention then reimburses the Division for the cars sold (both prior to and during the Convention). In addition the Division will receive 65% of the surplus from the Convention. While not huge, there was a surplus and the Division will receive some monies. I will report at the Division Meet in Phoenix regarding the final finances of the Convention.

I look forward to seeing all of you over the next few years at our Division Meets!!

## FROM THE CONTEST ROOM

*BY: DUANE BUCK*

The turnout of only two models in Tucson was very disappointing. Over the years I've seen the high quality models of many of our members and know that these individuals can compete effectively in judged contests. If you are concerned about competing in judged contests try entering your models in the popular vote Favorite Trains or Favorite Model contests. In any case enter the contests and share your work with fellow members.

With the upcoming NMRA national convention being hosted by our region in Anaheim, next year, it is time to consider and prepare contest entries for this event. Competing in the national contests is a challenge that can produce great satisfaction when you do well while knowing that you are competing with some of the best modelers. The Arizona Division can be a "proving ground" for your entries in preparation for national competition.

Kevin Loeff is the winner of the 2006-2007 Larry Manny Award. This prestigious Division award was

presented for the best structure model entered into a judged contest over this two year period. The award was made for Kevin's scratchbuilt model of the Chandler, AZ. SP depot. Congratulations to Kevin.

This will be my final column as your Division Contest Chair. After serving you for 13 years in the Division contest room, it is time for someone else to have their turn. Kevin Loeff is that person. Kevin will assume this important post at the 2008 Phoenix meet, during the March timeframe.

## CONTEST RESULTS TUCSON DIVISION MEET

*NOVEMBER 3, 2007*

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

### Display-Open

2nd Place - Bob Libbey                      Coal Loading Diorama

### Best of Show

Duane Buck                                      EMD F7A-B GN #268A/B\*

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

### Levity

1st Place - John Stockton                      Hop Hoppers

2nd Place - Bob Nuss                              Grasshoppers

### **Photography**

#### Model - Color

1st Place - Alan Barnes                      Local At Team Track

#### Prototype - Color

1st Place - Bob Libbey                      Stuck in the Mud

2nd Place - Allen Greger                      Maintenance in the Woods

3rd Place - Don Stewart                      Returning to the Engine House

#### Prototype - Black & White

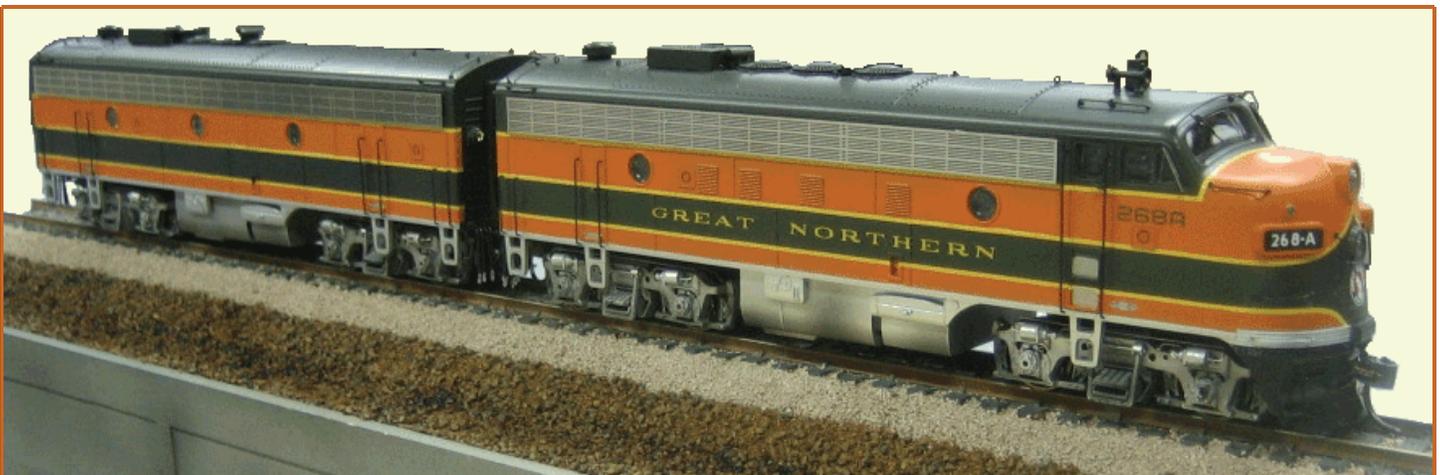
1st Place - Bob Libbey                      Light Rail

**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
**KEEP ON BUILDING THOSE MODELS**

**\*\* CONGRATULATIONS\*\***

**JACK DEBOLT**  
**2007 ARIZONA DIVISION**  
**MEMBER OF THE YEAR!**

*Jack was presented this award at the 2007 PSR Convention in Tucson.*



Duane Buck's Great Northern F7s was Best of Show.  
Congratulations Duane!



Bob Libbey finished second place  
in the Display Open category.  
Great job Bob!

## ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

BY: DON STEWART

At the November Arizona Division Meet there were only two models entered in the judged contest. One earned a merit award and the other did well for a first time entry.

I have been contacted by a member of a club about the Chief Dispatcher Certificate. The club has been operating for a while and the member wanted to know if they qualified for the certificate. The answer is perhaps. To meet the requirements a member needs to:

Design an operating plan for a model railroad and participate in the operation of a model railroad for over 50 hours. Reference the May 1991 Bulletin for an article on this.

A: Operation: 50 hours

- 10 hours minimum as the Dispatcher
- A minimum of 10 hours each in at least three of the five categories which are: Engineer, Yardmaster, Hostler, Towerman, and Dispatcher.
- The layout must have at least two mainline trains plus yard switching in simultaneous operation with a method of controlling car movements.

B. Documentation:

- Prepare a schematic of a layout meeting the above requirements and indicate all pertinent distances.
- Develop a timetable for the layout for an 8-hour period (or more) with 3 trains moving in each direction.
- Develop an operating train chart (graph) which interprets the above schedule. Show at least 1 meet and describe actions of meet.
- Develop a system of operation for the operation (car cards, thumbtacks, etc.) and explanation for their use.

C. SOQ (Statement of Qualifications):

- Send copies of the forms in B above.
- Descriptions of the jobs held in A and the number of hours each.
- A signed, witnessed "Certification of Operation"

As a club, the schematic (Item B.1.) and system of operation (Item B.4.) are common and may be used by all the members on their application (SOQ). As an individual, you will need to develop an operation

plan meeting requirements B.2. and B.3. and serve time in three of the five roles for 50 hours.

If you think you may qualify contact me and we can discuss the requirements and how to accomplish them. Frankly, it is not as difficult as it first seems.

Build some models for March! There are lots of good modelers out there! We like to look at and discuss the techniques used to build them. We can all learn something.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

CHECK THE NMRA WEBSITE AT:  
[WWW.NMRA.ORG/ACHIEVEMENT](http://WWW.NMRA.ORG/ACHIEVEMENT)



There were some great entries in the photo contest.



## RAILETTES

BY: JANET SPOONER

## Calling All Railettes!!

Where were you on the 10th of November? We had a Meet in Tucson and only 4 Railettes were there. But what we lacked in numbers we made up in fun. Each of the ladies there got to make two French Bulletin Boards. These are the ones that are made of material and ribbon and you stick the important paper or photo or reminder behind one of the ribbons instead of sticking a pin through it. Then, as we had time in the afternoon, we all made Flower Pot Polar Bears. They are about 2 inches tall and we decorated them differently. What personalities they seemed to take on. It is a shame you could not have been there to join in the fun, laughter, and friendship.

For those of you who were at the Regional Convention that took place in Tucson in September, I wanted to let you know that the shelter gifts, we made, were taken by Tatiana Gutierrez to the "New Beginnings for Women and Children" in Tucson. Thank you, Tatiana. I received a thank you from the shelter and they were very grateful for the washcloths and assorted toiletries we sent them. They provide services for homeless women and their children. Our next meet is in Phoenix in March. Hope more of you ladies make it. Right now I don't have a clue what we are going to make. But I am going to promise you that whatever I come up with, you are going to laugh and have a good time making it.

Come on out and see if I am right!



## MODELERS LOOKING FOR MODELERS

Not a dating service... This is a new column to help modelers find other modelers in their area.

- **Lee & Donna Calahan - Bullhead City, AZ**

phone: 928-754-5273

email: leecalahan@frontiernet.net

*"Looking for fellow model train enthusiasts in the Bullhead City area to 'talk' trains, exchange times, ideas, etc."*

## NEW DIVISION WEBSITE!

As of January 31, 2008, the Arizona Division will have it's own website: [www.AZDIV-NMRA.org](http://www.AZDIV-NMRA.org). On the website. You'll find the current and past Spur Line issues, pictures from the Division Meets, a calendar of events, listings for clubs, and more.

In addition, you will find a 'Members seeking Members' area. It's a way to allow members who are looking for other members in their area to meet with. (See the next column as well) .

We're proud to implement the new Division website want to thank Dick Greatorex for his past support as webmaster!



The Railettes were busy again.  
Great French Bulletin Boards!

**EDITOR'S UPDATE****BY: RICK WATSON**

Hopefully, many of you have had the chance to view the color version on the web. I realize the not everyone has internet access, but due to the cost of printing and mailing we try to keep the number of pages of the printed edition to six or eight. I will try to include as much info in the printed version as possible. On the web version, you will find additional pictures from the Division meet and the contest room. Additionally, the more members we have taking only the web version, our costs will be reduced and we will be able to produce a fourth edition of the Spur Line each year. Today, due to the costs, we only produce three editions.

I'm always open to suggestions on how to improve the Spur Line. If you have ideas, please let me know.

***Join us in Phoenix  
Bring your models!***

*Superintendent's Corner*      *Continued from page 2*

six students approach me and asking me if I could teach them how to build models. Image what the possibilities that await us if we take a little time to mentor just one individual about model railroading. I don't care if it's your child or grandchild, just take a little of your time and pass on your knowledge and interest in our hobby.

Before I end this session, I would like to remind you of a challenge that Lenny Smith gave to us about a year ago. He asked if you did not want to enter a model in the Achievement Program, than just bring one in to show. During last year's Phoenix meet there were a lot of models on display and a lot of discussion between members on building techniques. It was awesome! So let us continue with what I call the "Lenny's Challenge." If you have a model, you would like to show off, bring it in! Do not be shy you are amongst friends.

I hope to see you, and your models, at the Phoenix Meet.

**ARIZONA DIVISION ROSTER****Director - Rick Watson**

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Tempe, AZ 85283-3023 rwtempe@gmail.com

**Superintendent - Art Carlton**

1898 S. Private Drive (520) 723-9212  
Casa Grande, AZ 85294 afcoscale@yahoo.com

**Chief Clerk & Paymaster - Richard Dick**

5948 E. Hawthorne Street (520) 790-5356  
Tucson, AZ 85711-1528 rldtrains@yahoo.com

**Membership Chairman - Pete Kaczmarowski**

1119 N. Gibson St. (480) 926-7940  
Gilbert, AZ 85234-3331 EMDGP30@aol.com

**Contest Chairman - Kevin Looff**

9018 E Range Rider Trail (480) 274-4472  
Mesa, AZ 85207-1363 kev\_looff@earthlink.net

**Achievement Program Division Mgr - Don Stewart**

2722 E. Bighorn Ave. (480) 759-5019  
Phoenix, AZ 85048-8984 snpcw@cox.net

**Nominations Chairman - Lenny Smith**

1747 N. Gilbert Ave. (520) 836-7683  
Casa Grande, AZ 85222-2102 lamber01@msn.com

**Raillette Chair - Janet Spooner**

10015 W. Royal Oak Rd. Apt 138 (623) 977-6760  
Sun City, AZ 85351-3115 JSpooner86@aol.com

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6231 S. Rita Lane (602) 319-0265  
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**Arizona Division Web Site:**

**[www.AzDiv-NMRA.org](http://www.AzDiv-NMRA.org)**





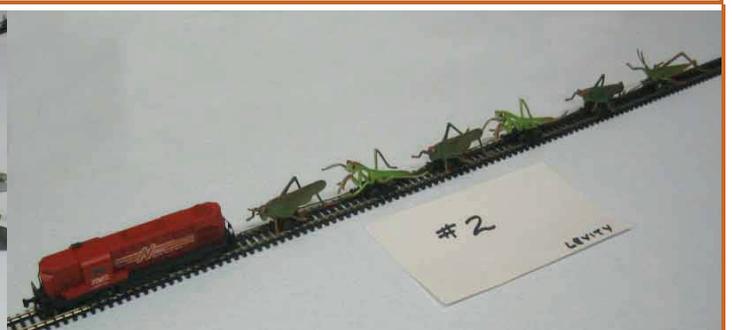
The guys from the Scottsdale Model Railroad Club gave a clinic on DCC turnout control, reporting and occupation detection.

Mr. DCC aka Bruce Petrarca gave a clinic on basic electronics for DCC.



**COMING EVENTS:**

- March 1, 2008**                    **Arizona Division Spring Meet** - First Southern Baptist Church, Phoenix, AZ
- March 8&9, 2008**            **Great Train Expo** - Westworld, Scottsdale, AZ
- June 14, 2008**                **Arizona Division Summer Meet** - Federated Community Church, Flagstaff, AZ
- July 13-18, 2008**            **Anaheim Special** - NMRA National Convention, Anaheim, California
- October 11-12, 2008**       **Rail Fair** - McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park, Scottsdale, AZ
- November 8, 2008**         **Arizona Division Fall Meet** - Jr. League of Tucson, Tucson, AZ



The was a good sense of humor in the Levity Train category. Hoppers were everywhere!

**ARIZONA CLUBS:**

**Arizona & Southwest Model Railroad Society / Tucson NTRAK** - N scale, Tucson, AZ

Contact: John Scott (520) 250-2800      On the web: <http://home.comcast.net/~tucsonntrak>

**Central Arizona Model Railroad Club** - Multiple scales. Prescott, AZ area

Contact: Brent Schnitzius (928) 445-6560      On the web: [www.camrrc.com](http://www.camrrc.com)

**Flagstaff Model Railroad Club** - HO, HOn3, N scales. Flagstaff, AZ

Contact: John Lovely (928) 774-7589      On the web: <http://ucc.nau.edu/~twp/railclub>

**Grand Canyon State Model Railroaders** - HO scale Modular, Phoenix, AZ area

Contact: Bob Gibbs (480) 968-1760      On the web: [www.GCSMR.org](http://www.GCSMR.org)

**Ponderosa North** - Round Robin, Phoenix, AZ area

Contact: Matt Furze [mattfurze@cox.net](mailto:mattfurze@cox.net)      On the web: [www.arizonarails.com/pncpage](http://www.arizonarails.com/pncpage)

**Southern Arizona Society of Model Engineers (SASME)** - HO, HOn3 scales, Tucson, AZ

Contact: Richard Dick (520) 790-5356      On the web: [www.sasme.org](http://www.sasme.org)

**Scottsdale Model Railroad Club** - HO, HOn3 scales, Scottsdale, AZ

Contact: [SMRC01C@ScottsdaleModelRRClub.org](mailto:SMRC01C@ScottsdaleModelRRClub.org)      On the web: [www.scottsdalemodelrrclub.org](http://www.scottsdalemodelrrclub.org)

**Sun'N'Sand Model Railroad Club** - N scale, Scottsdale, AZ

Contact: Mark Vanacore (602) 410-1110      On the web: [www.sun-n-sand.org](http://www.sun-n-sand.org)

**Thunderbird Model Railroad Club** - HO scale, Phoenix, AZ

Contact: Larry Platt      On the web: [www.trainweb.org/tbird](http://www.trainweb.org/tbird)

**Yuma Model Railroaders** - Multiple Scales, Yuma, AZ

Contact: Lee Stoermer (928) 344-9417      On the web: [www.geocities.com/yumamodelrailroaders](http://www.geocities.com/yumamodelrailroaders)

*To have your club added to the list, please email your club info to [SpurLine@yahoo.com](mailto:SpurLine@yahoo.com)*



Duane Buck's Airbrush clinic was very informative and well attended.

# SPUR LINE

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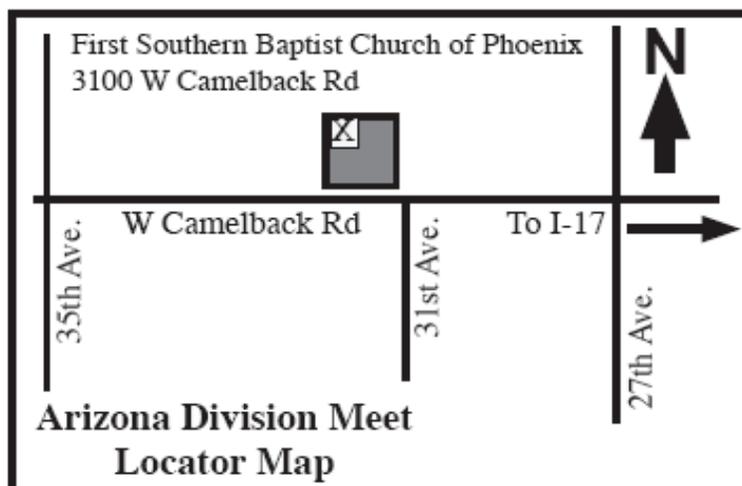
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*See our new website: [www.AzDiv-NMRA.org](http://www.AzDiv-NMRA.org)*

*Support your local  
Hobby Shop!*

*Join us in Phoenix  
Bring your models!*



**SATURDAY, MARCH 1,  
2008**

**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.