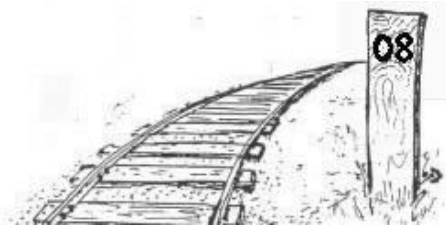
The MILEPOST



March 2008 **Volume 27, Issue 3** **www.ppdnmra.com**

PPD Swapmeet April 5th

Sand Creek Police Station has confirmed that the meeting room will be ready for our meeting on Friday, 14 March.

Superintendent
Charles Marchbanks
574-0381

Assist Superintendent
Open

Secretary
Mike Cather
528-6186

Treasurer
Frank Pareso
591-9470

Newsletter Editor
John Emmot
380-8421

Module Chairman
John Emmot
380-8421

Achievement Program
Open

Contest Chairman
Ed Pagels
111-2222

Librarian
Jerry Hansz

Swap Meet
Charles Marchbanks
574-0381

Nominating
Open

WEBsite
Chris Fox
740-1014

Membership (acting)
Bill Poley
266-8989

Raffle Chairman
Frank Pareso
591-9470

Refreshment Chairman
rotating
xxx-xxxx

Superintendent's Notes

by
Charles Marchbanks

Another month has passed and it is time once again to write something for the MilePost. Well to start with the February Meeting was CANCELED due to plumbing problems at the Police Station. They had to rip up the flooring in the conference room and it will not be ready for use until the end of February. I decided it was easier to cancel the meeting than find a place to meet for one month. I hope to see you all at the March meeting.

The Assistant Superintendent position is still not filled. I will ask and/or assign fellow members to be in charge of the program for the next month until we have a coordinator. The division could still use a keeper of the TV.

The Program for January was to have a discussion on the future of the division or what we want to do this year as a division. One idea that I have had is our own local Modeling with the Masters. It could actually be getting some Master Model railroaders to come in and present a weekend of hands on clinics at a cost lower than the national program. It could also be us sharing clinics with each other for a Saturday with some hands on. The sharing of ideas and improving modeling skills is important as we are never too old to learn.

A more challenging idea is to present model railroading class to beginners in the hobby and most likely not Division members. I have information from such a class that was presented in Kansas City. Though we could design the class around what we know and cover most aspects of the hobby that a beginner would need to know. Hopefully this would draw new members in to the NMRA and Division.

I would like to see the Division increase in membership this year and make any guest we have feel welcome. So they will want to comeback. This means having meetings that are fun and enjoyable and not get bogged down with a bunch of Business. Hopefully we can also have programs that are interesting. This one requires as much work from me as the Superintendent as it does the rest of the members.

Our next Division Train Show and Swap Meet is April 5, 2008 at the Village Christian Church. So put this on your Calendars and plan on coming and helping or getting a table. We will have a layout at this meet after not having one at the last show. We will most likely arrange the table different this time so the layout can be in the main room. This was suggested at the January meeting.

I would like you to start considering having your layout open for the annual July Layout tour. Let me know if you would like to open your layout up for the Division members to see. I hope to be prepared early this year.

Well that is all I can think of at this point and I need to get this to John so he can get it in the Mile Post. I will mention the up coming Region Convention in Santa Fe NM. I hope to see you all at the next meeting on March 14th.

Charles

NEXT MEETING
Friday, March 14, 2008 7:30 PM
Sand Creek Police Station
4125 Center Park Drive
(southeast of Academy and Fountain)
Program: **View of the Future**
by: **Pikes Peak Division**
Contest: **Structures**

PIKES PEAK DIVISION

Meeting Minutes

By: Secretary, Mike Cather

NO FEBRUARY MEETING

Date: January 11, 2008. Start time: 7:30 PM
By Superintendent: Charles Marchbanks
Attendees: 21, Visitors: 1 (Joe Hadden)

Old Business and Committee Reports:

1. Minutes accepted as in the MILEPOST.
2. Treasurer: Report presented by Mr. Pareso.
3. Refreshments: Need someone to run this for monthly meetings, else it rotates for all.
4. Program: Need presenters for meetings. Who can present something?
5. Nominating: Mr. Lipper has officer vacancies to fill, need people to step up.
6. Swap Meet: Next swap meet is in April at Village Christian Church. Also seeking a swap meet in November in the Monument area; Mr. Lamdin is checking on a promising site that should be amenable to many Denver-area modelers.
7. Milepost: Mr. Emmot reports nine members are paid up for hard-copy mailing in 2008.
8. Contests: Mr. Pagels reports that there will be a photo contest in the future, as well as a revised schedule of contests.

Break: 8:05 8:25 PM

New Business:

1. Tape Library: Plan was presented for updating the database use on the PPD website, with a method for on-line reservation of tapes. Intent is to preclude hauling the entire tape library to monthly meetings. Status: Approved.
2. PPD Assets: Discussion occurred to establish an SOP or process for disposition of PPD assets (e.g., excess DCC gear, etc). Motion was made that disposition of PPD assets valued in excess of $50.00 must be approved by the membership. Status: Approved.
3. Pikes Peak & Southern (PP&S) Module Group. Discussion occurred in attempt to clarify the relationship between the PPD and the PP&S, as there is some commonality of membership between the two. Concern was stated that PP&S is not inviting all modular modelers of PPD to setup with the PP&S at shows or fairs. Motion was made that: If PPD assets (e.g., straight or corner modules, etc) go an event with the PP&S, that any PPD member with a module(s) will be invited to that event. Status: Not Approved (9-5).
4. Program: Discussion of chapter plans for 2008; Tabled until February meeting.
5. Model Contest: Open Loads, with 8 entries. Winners: 1) Jerry Bonds; 2) Ed Pagels; 3) Tie between Charles Marchbanks and John Emmot.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 PM.

Upcoming Events

Pikes Peak Division Trainshow and Swapmeet
April 5, 2008 Time TBA
Village Christian Church, 3113 Primrose Drive
Colorado Springs, CO

Please inform me if you know of local events we should cover.

Recurring Events

The operations folks have a website with their ops schedule posted. Check it out and see if you would like to run.
http://www.rockyrail.org/index.php/home

PikeMasters Model Railroad Club
Colorado Springs City Auditorium Basement
Work session every Thursday 7:00 PM
Business meeting first Thursday 7:00 PM
www.pikemastersrr.com

Golden Cycle Model Railroad Club
in Manitou Springs has lost their lease.
No work sessions with layout in storage.

Colorado Midland Chapter, NRHS
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Murray Blvd and Constitution Ave, 7:00 PM
2nd Thurs every month except Jun, Jul, Aug

Editor's Corner

by John Emmot

The fire closest to our foot now is the Division Swapmeet. We are set for Saturday, 5 April at the Village Christian Church. This location is near East Fillmore Street and North Hancock Ave. Current plans call for a small module setup in the large room with the sales tables and putting any overflow sales tables in the hallway. The layout size will probably be on the order of 12 X 16 or 12 X 20. We'll work out the layout details at the meeting. We will also need to arrange for flyers to get out in the local area. Does anyone have access to copy technology? The last Milepost cost 8 cents per sheet to copy. We will want a hundred or more flyers. They will have to be distributed soon after the meeting. I hope that we will have full support from the members of the Division for this event. Hopefully the weather will cooperate with us on this date. We don't need a snow storm.

See you at the meeting.

2008 Contest Schedule

January-OPEN LOADS
February-VEHICLES
March-STRUCTURES
April-BENT SCREWDRIVER
May-PHOTOS (prototype or models)
June-FREIGHT CARS
July-W0RK TRAIN / MOW
August-PASSENGER EQUIPMENT
September-WEATHERING
October-DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES
November-CABEESE
December-NO CONTEST

For Sale -- 7 modular framework units, 2' wide, 5' long, 43' tall. Units are metal and painted. Selling due to ill health. Tom Johnston, 591-4073, if no answer leave message.

Possible Project

Charles has raised some ideas in his column about events and projects the Division can under take. I would point out that Gerry Drewes has started a Youth In Model Railroading group here in Colorado Springs. I believe he would be glad to have more help and volunteers to support that work. There are several young people and some fathers who are active now. Perhaps the Division would like to assist with that. We can discuss it at the next meeting.

Guest Column

by Ray L. Rhodes

Charles has laid out an opportunity for the Division to discuss what kinds of activities you are willing to support. I am aware that you have experienced some differences in your visions of the future. The agendas of many individuals are different. You must find the common ground for enjoying and advancing the hobby. There is much that can be done, but it will require the cooperation of more than one person to bring the actions to reality. Not everyone has to do everything, but enough have to agree to work together to carry the weight of what you decide to do. Those who are willing to support the Division need to consider what they are ready to commit to before the meeting. My sense is that there has been a pull back from what was once possible. If that is indeed the case, you need to define what the new plan is. One or two committed folks may not be enough to sustain the activities of the Division. We all know that there are fewer railroaders attending meetings than there once were. The Division will have to practice the art of the possible. You may have to think outside the box to come up with a viable program for the future. I wish you all luck in the world. I hope you will continue as a successful element of the NMRA.

No February Contest

Alan Hutchins was traveling across Iowa last winter. He found the equipment below in Mason City. Yes, those are electric pickups on the cabs. It is the Iowa Traction Railroad.

Deadline for Milepost material is two weeks prior to the regular meeting date. If you have material that you want published, please contact the Newsletter editor.

Pikes Peak Division
National Model Railroad Association
c/o P.O. Box 25112
Colorado Springs, CO 80936
U.S.A.

Support the hobby shops that support the raffle. Without them there would be no prizes.

Custom
RAILWAY SUPPLY
Michael R. Clark
1025 Garden of the Gods Road, Suite D • Colorado Springs, CO 80907
(719) 634-4616 Fax: (719) 634-0916

MIZELL TRAINS INC.
Since 1977 303-429-4811
www.sunbirdtrainmart.com

CABOOSE HOBBIES INC.
THE WORLD'S LARGEST MODEL TRAIN STORE
SINCE 1938
500 SOUTH BROADWAY
DENVER, CO 80209-4002
U.S.A.
(303) 777-6766
FAX (303) 777-0028
http://www.caboosehobbies.com

DISCOUNT TRAINS
M. JORDAN ZIMMERMAN
(719) 574-2080
3311 N. Academy Blvd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80917