

North County Model Railroad Society Annual Report 2024

December 31, 2024

This report has been approved by the Board of Directors and Officers of the North County Model Railroad Society (NCMRS) for submission to Vicki Gutierrez and Kimberly Duffin, City of Oceanside Property Management.

NCMRS 2024 Directors and Officers:

Board of Directors		Officers	
Chairman	John Burrow	President	Harold Helland
Director	Richard Llewellyn	Vice President	Ed Perez
Director	Jeff McClain	Treasurer	Bill Jones
		Secretary	Richard Keefer

The North County Model Railroad Society was established in 1990 and is a not-for-profit educational charity. NCMRS presents and teaches railroad operations, history, and safety along with answering numerous questions about the construction and operation of a model railroad. We currently have 47 adult members. NCMRS moved to Heritage Park in February 2014 and built an historically based model railroad featuring the City of Oceanside, other cities in Southern California, and portions of Arizona and New Mexico.

We are open to the public Wednesday through Sunday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm (Heritage Park is closed Monday and Tuesday) and host an average of 50 guests every week. Although most guests come on Saturday, guests that come during the week generally receive a better tour and ask more questions. NCMRS has had visitors from 44 different states and 46 countries.

We provide numerous services as a not-for-profit organization. Our model railroad depicts railroad history for southern California with a focus on Oceanside. During our tours, we discuss what Oceanside and other southern California towns were like in the late 1950's and early 1960's. Many of our Oceanside structures depict actual businesses around 1960. NCMRS uses QR Codes to provide visitors with history of southern California. Using their phones, visitors click on the QR Code to learn the history of the various buildings, structures, or areas of the model railroad. There are currently 16 QR Codes around the model railroad providing history of the various cities. These QR Codes are also available on the NCMRS website. We also have a model of the Top Gun House which is an Oceanside landmark. NCMRS supports Operation Lifesaver with Coaster and Sprinter "Piggy Banks" given to kids.

We have numerous children who visit us regularly. To keep the children excited about their visit, we have "green buttons" which they can push to activate various displays around the

model railroad. One of our members developed a search game that keeps adults and children involved for a couple hours as they work from a list to find various structures on the model railroad. Children genuinely interested in trains also receive a complementary railroad car from our donations.

NCMRS promotes itself with a Website, Facebook account, National Model Railroad Association, and local fliers. We are listed in numerous model railroad magazines and web sites, which accounts for our wide range of locations for our visitors.

In 2024 we hosted the following groups:

- Boys and Girls Club
- Valley Middle School Broadcasting Class
- Four Classes from Foussat Elementary School
- Glendale Model Railroad Society
- Oceanside High School Foundation All Class Reunion
- Escondido Christian Camera Club
- Sunrise Senior Living
- Oceanside Home School Children
- Oceanside Art Festival
- Model Railroad Swap Meets in May and September
- Hacienda Mission San Luis Ray

During 2024 we upgraded the facility and several of our scenes throughout the model railroad.

Facility Improvements during 2024 include:

Replaced the exterior lighting and timers for our building.

Model Railroad Upgrades during 2024 include:

- Purchased new computer for Wi Throttle operation
- Purchased new refrigerator
- Purchased new touch pads for turnout operation

Helix Area

- Added a box car in the river around the helix.
- Added a dam beside the helix

Track Work

- Rework the mainline at San Diego Station
- Rework the track between Turnout 12 and Turnout 13
- Rework the mainline at Peach Springs
- Rework the mainline at Abo Canyon tunnel entrance

Perris

Perris Garage
John Lee Paint

Box Springs

New Village with five new buildings

Camp Pendleton

Barber Shop

Bonsall

Abandoned House

Temecula

Automated track crossing signals

Peach Springs

Chuck Wagon Restaurant

Hobart

Train collision with semi-trailer truck

Santa Fe Springs

Two new businesses

Automated track crossing signals

Added scenery for the G Scale train

NCMRS is fortunate to be located at Heritage Park and several model railroad clubs are quite envious of our location. We believe our presence adds to the enjoyment of all who visit Heritage Park and look forward to many more years at this location.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold Helland

Harold Helland
President, NCMRS

John Burrow

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Chairman, NCMRS