

**Model Railroads of Southern California &  
The Central Coast Railroad Festival  
Layout Tour No. 66 Oct. 5 Thru October 8, 2023 (Thur. – Sun.)**

<http://ccrrf.com/>

<https://groups.io/g/ModelRailroadsofSoCalif>

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Updated 10/4/23

<b>Owner/ Group</b>	<b>Dates &amp; Times Open*</b>	<b>Railroad Name</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Major Cross Streets</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Central Calif. Coast Garden Railroad Society	Saturday 10:00 to <b>4:00</b>	None	G			
Central Coast Trains	Thursday, Friday & 10:00 to <b>5:00</b> Saturday <b>12:00 to</b> <b>4:00</b>	Model Train Store Display Layouts	HO, N, O & G			
Geoff & Heather Clinton	Sunday 10:00 to <b>4:00</b>	Orcutt & Islay Creek Railroad	G			
Paul Deis	Friday <b>3:00 to 8:00</b>	SP Santa Margarita Sub.	HO			
Kyle Dodds	Sunday 11:00 to <b>4:00</b>	Nulph Shortline	G			
Mark & Michelle Edwards	Saturday 10:00 to <b>4:00</b>	Cascade Peak & Buena Vista Railway	G			

Mark & Shelia Goodman	Sunday 10:00 to <b>4:00</b>	A & M Railroad	G			
Tom Gore	Sunday <b>12:00 to</b> <b>4:00</b>	Unnamed	O & S			
Ron Hamley	Saturday <b>12:00 to</b> <b>6:00</b>	Cuesta & Pacific Railroad	N			
Anthony Harris	Saturday 10:00 to <b>5:00</b>	Unnamed	N & Z			
Mark & Lori Hays	Friday <b>1:00 to 5:00</b>	MNL Railroad	G			
Bernie Meister	Saturday 10:00 to <b>4:00</b>	Conejo & Tortuga RR	G			
Oceano Depot Assn.	Saturday & Sunday, 11:00 to <b>4:00</b>	Museum Display Layouts	HO			
Orange County 'N' Gineers	Friday & Saturday 10:00 to <b>4:00</b> Sunday 10:00 to <b>3:00</b>	Modular Layout	N x 2			

Pacific Coast Railroad	Saturday 10:00 to <b>3:00</b>	Pacific Coast Railroad	3-Foot Gauge			
Skip Purper	Sunday 10:00 to <b>3:00</b>	Pacific Coast Railway	On30			
San Luis Obispo Model RR Assn.	Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10:00 to <b>4:00</b>	Portable Club Layouts	HO, N			
San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum	Friday thru Sunday 10:00 to <b>4:00</b>	Southern Pacific Railroad & Pacific Coast Railway	HO, HOn3			
Santa Maria Valley Railway Historical Museum	Sunday <b>12:00 to 4:00</b>	Display Layouts	HO, N & Lionel			
Mel & Marilyn Wammack	Saturday 10:00 to <b>4:00</b>	M & M On Main Street Railroad	G			

**\*Bold Text Indicates PM Hours**

**GENERAL NOTES:**

Please observe the hours of operation for the layouts. Do not arrive early. Do not bring pets into homes.

Persons under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

Persons taking this tour assume all risks and liability for their personal safety. Group Moderator is not responsible for personal loss or injury to those taking this tour.

Information current as of 10/4/23.

## **SPECIFIC DIRECTIONS, PARKING INSTRUCTIONS & OTHER INFORMATION FOR LOCATIONS:**

**Central Coast Trains** - On Saturday there will be a parade on El Camino Real starting at 10:00. The shop will be accessible from noon on.

**Mark Edwards** - Enter the marked gate west of the residence. Park in the designated area. The railroad is a short walk up an unpaved trail. Restricted parking and level access on unpaved surfaces is offered at the residence for guests with limited mobility.

**Bernie Meister** – Look for the mailbox with the address on the post and take the long drive way to the property.

**Pacific Coast Railroad** – Round trip for adults is \$10, children 3-12 are \$5, and 2 and under are free.

**San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum** – Admission: Adult \$5, Child (4-15) \$3, Child (3 and under) free. Includes admission to the Southern Pacific Railroad & Pacific Coast Railway model railroads.

**Santa Maria Valley Railway Historical Museum** – Operating layouts set up in the box car at the museum just off Miller Street, which is just south of Santa Maria Transit Center. Enter parking lot from service road off Boone Street.

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## **LAYOUT DESCRIPTIONS-**

**Central Calif. Coast Garden Railroad Society** – The Central California Coast Garden Railroad Society (CCCGRS) joins the festival hosts at the San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum operating a display of large-scale model trains suitable to run both in- and outdoors in your garden. These trains can operate with power from the track, power from on-board batteries (just like your electric vehicle) or from steam. You can control these trains from a dedicated remote, your mobile phone or even your computer. Look for whimsical “egg liners”, a popular, small railcar available in dozens of colors, patterns and themes. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the rewarding hobby of garden railroading from friendly people who share your passion for all things trains.

Website:

<https://cccgrs.org/>

**Central Coast Trains** – This well-stocked family-owned model train store has three finished in-store display layouts in HO, N, O plus a G scale overhead layout. Website: <http://www.centralcoasttrains.com/>

Store HO Layout: <http://www.centralcoasttrains.com/tour-shop.html>

Video Tour: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5NMpzG7ixBo>

**Geoff & Heather Clinton** – The Orcutt & Islay Creek Railroad in Santa Maria, California is one of the longest, continuous operating garden railroads on the Central Coast. This "could have happened" railroad is modeled in the spirit of the Pacific Coast Railway, a 3-foot narrow gauge railway that connected Port Hartford to Los Olivos via San Luis Obispo and other communities. The railroad is designed specifically to accommodate the unique needs of live steam locomotives and their consists. Thoughtful planning and construction allow easy roadbed and track maintenance, and continuous accessibility to rolling stock in motion. Kit and kit-bashed structures are gradually being replaced with scratch-built features, many of which include lighting and other effects. Website:

<https://cccgrs.org/portfolio/orcutt-islay-creek-railroad/>

You can view video of the Railway at the following link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H1U5EhMPoN8&feature=share&list=UUmqXEwSwzZIVGkH2scKfHfQ>

**Paul Deis** – This HO scale layout is based on the Santa Margarita Subdivision of the Southern Pacific Coast Line as it was in 1949. The area modeled is from San Luis Obispo to San Miguel. Most trains require helpers over the Cuesta grade. The focal point of the railroad is San Luis Obispo. San Luis Obispo was a Division Point, Crew Change Point and Helper District with a classification yard and engine facilities. The SP handled general freight and blocks of sugar beets and perishable trains. Sixteen scheduled trains plus many extra trains kept the Coast Line busy.

The layout is 22 feet x 17 feet with a double deck walk-around design. Track is hand laid Code 83 and Code 70 rail with 28-inch minimum radius curves. Control is NCE DCC. Locomotives feature sound.

Operations are by timetable and train orders supported by four cycle waybills and car cards. A Train Order Board, whistles and hand signals are used for communications.

The emphasis is getting trains over the road and simulating prototypical operating practices. Up to six people can be employed during a full operating session, which typically lasts four hours.

Trackwork is complete and scenery is 75% complete.

**Kyle Dodds** - Kyle models a 1920s shortline railroad. His garden railroad occupies a 35 foot x 45 foot area with a 250-foot mainline and another 100 feet of sidings and yards. There are some industry areas to provide for switching and "railroad operations". There are around sixty feet of wooden trestles and the track loops over itself to gain elevation. All of the trestles and retaining walls were scratch built in Kyle's wood shop. Currently there are no structures. He is converting the railroad to DCC. While there are definite areas that are very railroad focused, the ultimate goal was to have the railroad work its way through his yard and garden to enjoy having the train run while relaxing in the yard. There are several fruit trees, some of which were planted by his great grandfather in the 1940s.

**Mark & Michelle Edwards** - The inspiration for our central California garden railway is the “Happiest Place On Earth”. Not one you might visit today, but one you knew growing up – or might have known if plans had developed as intended. This freelance 2300 sq. ft. layout is sighted above a “counter height” retaining wall. Denver and Rio Grande Western (LGB) rolling stock still operate under that historic herald on this tourist destination line. As with most projects of this scope, ours will never truly be finished, but the Main Street Trolley (50 ft.), perimeter loop (365 ft.), and Mine Train around through Nature’s Wonderland (100 ft.) are now complete. We invite you to preview these lands, in the hope you will return and share the excitement as our story unfolds.

Website:

<https://cccgrs.org/portfolio/cascade-peak-buena-vista-railway/>

**Mark & Shelia Goodman** - The A & M Railroad consists of two separate large-scale layouts. The original layout has been reconfigured into an 80-foot oval featured in the center of the garden. In 2021, following 16 months of construction, the new 193-foot triple main line was completed. This impressive layout is raised 30 inches from ground level for ease of operation and viewing. All three lines cross an arch top drawbridge allowing operators to access the center of the layout. Kit and kit-bashed structures, details and figures are distributed throughout creating unique scenes to delight visitors.

Website:

<https://cccgrs.org/portfolio/a-m-railroad/>

**Tom Gore** – This layout is 22 feet x 17 feet with a double deck walk-around design. Track is hand laid Code 83 and Code 70 rail with 30-inch minimum radius curves. Control is NCE DCC. Locomotives feature sound.

**Ron Hamley** - This is a detailed, compact N scale U-shaped layout measuring 4”x4”, 2’x2’, 3’x7’. The mainline runs thirty-eight feet. Ron models California’s coastal mountain area in the 1950s to early 1960s. Scenery includes oak forests, grasslands, small streams and an ocean harbor. Many trees are handmade.

He runs a logging train plus freight and passenger trains. There is a small operating yard, freight station and engine house. Structures include a sawmill, a town with multi-story buildings and harbor area buildings.

Power is DC.

Videos:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLyzYO81\\_jM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLyzYO81_jM)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKWWewhOgF0>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aSaoT\\_Uklpk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aSaoT_Uklpk)

**Anthony Harris** - At this stop you can see two separate model railroad layouts. There is an N-scale that is 4' x 7.5' running three trains, and a Z-scale that is 3' x 5' running two trains. Both layouts contain tunnels, bridges, and changes in track elevation to create interest. The layouts and rolling stock are a mix of older and modern equipment. Power is DC. The layouts are meant for railfanning as opposed to doing any switching operating sessions. Here is a video of the N-scale layout:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uAncgyWjdb8>

**Mark & Lori Hays** - The MNL Railroad is a free-lance railroad sited on sloping terrain overlooking the picturesque Arroyo Grande Creek Valley. This garden railroad measures 80 ft. x 80 ft. with 700 feet of track plus sidings. It features three swale-spanning bridges, a covered trestle with three tracks including a 70-foot long storage track within the "mountainside", a 13 ft. x 20 ft. lake fed by a waterfall that the train runs behind, a mountain/canyon section, and a large industrial area. Recent additions include several town street and park scenarios and dozens of scale figures. A separate upper track spans a large canyon on a suspension bridge.

Website:

<https://cccgrs.org/portfolio/mnl-railroad/>

A Paul Patterson video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZV4wd0Vlo3E>

**Bernie Meister** - The Conejo & Tortuga Railroad is a free-lance designed layout of approximately 270 feet consisting of a large mountain and a distinctly mid-1920s western ghost town inspired by the movie "Rango". The layout has recently undergone some major changes and additions such as the replacement of 10 feet of underground tunnel structure and addition of a spur line to a silver mine. The railroad is battery-powered only and operated using the Revolution 2.4GHz Train Engineer Transmitter and Revolution 2.4GHz On Board Receivers. All turnouts and turntable are hand operated.

Website:

<https://cccgrs.org/portfolio/conejo-tortuga-railroad/>

**Oceano Depot Association** – The Oceano Depot Association's mission is to restore, preserve, and operate the former Southern Pacific Oceano Depot and other structures that have significance for historical, scientific, educational and recreational purposes for the benefit of the residents and visitors. The Association's numerous public displays include small HO and N scale layouts, a Southern Pacific boxcar, a Union Pacific caboose, produce crate labels, railroad paperwork, photos, tools and equipment. The Depot also houses a collection of World War II photos and memorabilia and local history items.

Tours of the Depot will be offered 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

Museum Website: <https://oceanodepot.org/>

**Orange County 'N' Gineers** – This N scale club was started in 1974, a year after N-TRAK was formed. As with N-TRAK, the club promotes model railroading by modeling model complete scenes in N scale. The clubs sets-ups and assembles modular layout sections to form large operating layouts at public shows, mainly in Southern California.

In 1995 the club had grown to the point where it could not provide running time for all the members at the shows and the nature of what different members wanted the club to operate had changed, Thus was born the N-Trak Express club. Now both clubs can be seen at many of the local train shows. The original club has continued to grow and change as new members and modules are added to the group. Website: <http://www.ocngineers.com/>

### **Pacific Coast Railroad -**

The Pacific Coast Railroad honors the historic role of the railroad industry in the development of Santa Margarita and the Central Coast. This venue is located at the Historic Santa Margarita Ranch in Santa Margarita. Their steam locomotive #3 and two of the historic Santa Fe & Disneyland coaches will take guests on a 1.6-mile journey around the historic Santa Margarita Ranch. Founded in 1774, the Ranch features numerous buildings that are listed on the National Register.

Round trip for adults is \$10, children 3-12 are \$5, and 2 and under are free. Other optional rides are available in their 1930 Model A Railtruck. Other rail equipment will be on display and seen from the train.

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pacificcoastrailroadcompany>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXkxGSwdA8o>

**Skip Purper** – Skip is modeling the Sisquoc Branch of the narrow gauge Pacific Coast Railway in On30. Here is a link to a map of the Pacific Coast Railway showing the Sisquoc Branch: <http://www.ccrf.com/assets/PCRY-map.jpg>

This is a “modular” L-shaped 20-foot x 2-foot layout that resides more or less permanently in his workshop-garage. Skip has scratch-built or kitbashed all of the structures and painted his own backdrops. The layout includes a scratch-built model of the Sisquoc Depot, the gravel pits and a portion of the Palmer oil racks.

The railroad is powered by a simple Prodigy Express DCC unit and motive power is by Bachmann-Spectrum and Broadway Limited. Future plans include equipping the locos with operating front couplers and extending the turnaround ‘Y’ to facilitate operations.

**San Luis Obispo Model Railroad Association** – Members are actively engaged in multiple modeling scales, including HO, N, O, On30, and G. Members working in other scales are also represented, and almost every scale may be found at their events & runs. Members have collaborated to build a modular layout in N scale, and they now have an operational HO modular layout as well.

This group’s modules will be at the Oceano Depot.

Website: [www.slomra.org](http://www.slomra.org)

Video: <https://youtu.be/1AMpm9zQjul>

**San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum** – Operating on the site of the restored 1894 Southern Pacific Freight Depot, the San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum is preserving the railroad history of California and the Central Coast by collecting, restoring, displaying and operating historic railroad equipment.

The Central Coast Model Railroad occupies a 1,500 square foot space in the Museum. The goal is to portray the railroad history of the California Central Coast in miniature and operating scale trains in their historic context.

In concept the HO scale model represents various aspects of railroad life in San Luis Obispo and northern Santa Barbara counties including the geographical area, industries served, and train operations of the various railroads located there.

The double-deck peninsula layout has realistic miniature recreations of up to sixteen historic local railroad scenes along the Central Coast. Major features include the Pacific Coast Railway pier at Avila, the town of San Luis Obispo as a railroad division point incorporating the roundhouse, water tanks the station and adjacent historic buildings, the Stenner Creek trestle and famous horseshoe curve.



Operationally there are full-length Southern Pacific passenger trains including the colorful and renowned streamlined Daylight, the Lark and mail trains. Freight trains carry local produce, lumber, beets, oil and general merchandise. A maintenance of way trains also is included. The model mainline will be over five hundred feet long. Trains incorporate sound and radio control operations to present a realistic presentation of railroading along the Central Coast.

Currently the Pacific Coast Railway HO<sub>n3</sub> model railroad includes Avila Beach and the Port Harford Pier areas. The major elements include Harford Pier (nearly 16 feet in length), a four-foot high painted backdrop of the harbor area and the town of Avila Beach in the early 1930s, including the award-winning wood truss bridge over San Luis Obispo Creek as featured on the cover of the September 2012 issue of Railroad Model Craftsman.

Two hundred and forty feet of the lower level are now in operation. The Surf Depot area and the bridge crossing the Santa Ynez River are complete. The Stenner Creek Trestle (eight actual feet in length) is installed. Track is laid for the San Luis Obispo yard, which is eight tracks wide and thirty feet in length. Many of the historic structures are in place. Where possible all scenes modeled are based upon actual Southern Pacific track plans and 1950s era photographs.

Website: <http://www.slorm.com/>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NwjxSpqfsvU>

**Santa Maria Valley Railway Historical Museum** – This non-profit, educational museum is dedicated to the preservation of the railroad heritage of California, the Central Coast, and the Santa Maria Valley. There will be operating Lionel & HO trains set up in a 1930s Sacramento Northern box car at the museum. In addition to the boxcar the Museum's collection includes a late 1800s/early 1900s locomotive used by the Betteravia Union Sugar Company, a 1930s Santa Maria Valley Railroad Caboose No. 180 and a Canadian Track Inspection Speeder. The Museum also sells a small amount of model trains and related equipment.

**Mel & Marilyn Wammack** - The M & M on Main Street Railroad consists of a large irregular shaped oval with approximately 225 feet of track divided into a single main with three by-pass tracks. Minimum and maximum radius of the curves are 2 ½ ft. and 3 ft., respectively. Several scratch-built structures, including houses, movie theater and retail shops have been added to honor their 14 grandchildren, 4 children and their spouses. Each engine is battery powered and radio controlled. To accommodate the various elevation of the yard, there are two, not yet complete, (but functional), trestle loops, and a ten-foot bridge.