

**Model Railroads of Southern California &
The Central Coast Railroad Festival
Layout Tour No. 68 Oct. 3 Thru October 6, 2024 (Thur. – Sun.)**

<http://ccrrf.com/>

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

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Updated 9/27/24

Owner/ Group	Dates & Times Open*	Railroad Name	Scale			
Central Calif. Coast Garden Railroad Society	Saturday 10:00 to 4:00	None	G			
Central Coast Trains	Thursday & Friday 10:00 to 5:00 Saturday 12:00 to 4:00	Model Train Store Display Layouts	HO, N, O & G			
Geoff & Heather Clinton	Sunday 10:00 to 4:00	Orcutt & Islay Creek Railroad	G			
Paul Deis	Friday 3:00 to 8:00	SP Santa Margarita Sub.	HO			
Mark & Michelle Edwards	Saturday 10:00 to 4:00	Cascade Peak & Buena Vista Railway	G			
George Gibson	Friday 11:00 to 4:00 Saturday 10:00 to 3:00	DK & Pacific Mountain Railway	HO & HOn3			

Halter Ranch Winery	Saturday & Sunday 11:30 to 2:30	Halter Ranch Railroad	Mini-Railroad			
Ron Hamley	Saturday 11:00 to 5:00	Cuesta & Pacific Railroad	N			
Anthony Harris	Saturday 10:00 to 5:00	Unnamed	N & Z			
Chuck Jordan & Judith Dunlore	Saturday 10:00 to 4:00	Arroyo Grande Valley Railroad	G			
Will Kastner & Lucinda Eileen	Saturday 10:00 to 4:00	Monarch & Sand Railroad	G			
Bernie & Vickie Meister	Saturday 10:00 to 4:00	Conejo & Tortuga RR	G			
Don Morgan	Sunday 10:00 to 4:00	Mountain View Railroad	G			
Bill Obermeyer	Sunday 12:00 to 4:00	Obermeyer Ranch Railroad	HO			
Oceano Depot Assn.	Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10:00 to 4:00	Museum Display Layouts	HO			
Orange County 'N' Gineers	Friday & Saturday 10:00 to 4:00 Sunday 10:00 to 3:00	Modular Layout	N x 2			

Paul & Shuri Patterson	Saturday 10:00 to 4:00	The Californian	HO & G			
San Luis Obispo Model RR Assn.	Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10:00 to 4:00	Portable Club Layouts	HO, N			
San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum	Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10:00 to 4:00	Southern Pacific Railroad & Pacific Coast Railway	HO, HOn3			
Santa Maria Valley Railway Historical Museum	Sunday 12:00 to 4:00	Display Layouts	HO, N & Lionel			

GENERAL NOTES:

***Bold Text Indicates PM Hours**

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 9/27/24.

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 are offered at the residence for guests with limited mobility.

Chuck Jordan – From Corralitos Road look for the white rail fence and take the long driveway to the house.

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

Bill Obermeyer - This is a working horse ranch. Please do not bring dogs on to the property.

San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum – Admission: Adult \$6, Child (4-15) \$4, 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.

Persons taking this tour assume all risks and liability for their personal safety.

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.

<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-ft. 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 Orcutt & Islay Creek Railroad 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.

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/>

George Gibson - The DK & Pacific Mountain Railway is based on a freelance railroad trying to make a go of it at the height of the depression. The railroad works lumber operations from a Pacific coastal town and hard rock mining operations in steep mountainous terrain. Money is tight and the age and appearance of the rolling stock shows it. Trains are powered by steam and there are no diesels operating on this layout.

The layout is both HO and HOn3, and includes a simple loop of HOn30. The HO mainline runs through the wharf area of the coastal town, the service camp of a logging operation and through the Westerly classification yard of the railroad. The HOn3 mainline serves numerous mines and milling sites, and is located on the upper shelf of the two-shelf layout. This upper shelf is also the location of the HOn30 loop for a small tram that will serve the mines.

Also included in the den layout room is a high loop, display shelf for running On30 cars and locomotives from the owner’s collection. This display shelf also includes a loop of N Scale track for running the owner’s “favorite trains” . . . the Southern Pacific Daylight and the Santa Fe’s Super Chief. There is a second sixteen-foot x fourteen-foot layout room. The mainline tracks from both the HO and HOn3 shelves have been realigned through the common wall. New bench work has been constructed and the tracks have been installed. Now completed, the mainline of both the standard and narrow gauge lines have more than doubled the size of the initial layout. Another high display shelf is included and is currently operating. Two classification yards are included in the new room and will serve as the Easterly terminus for both standard and narrow gauge operations.

While the existing den layout has the ability to run both DC and DCC controlled locomotives, the new room is configured only for DCC power. The layout uses NCE DCC power cabs for locomotive control (including sound). Scenes have added sound modules, all structures have lighted interiors, and under shelf lighting is unique.

Scenery is slowing being added to the layout, with most underlying land forms in place. Several bridges, trestles, and other types of crossings are in place and have been detailed. Several tunnel portals are finished including interior details. The layout is a never-ending work in progress.

Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ufhvD2E5L1o>

Halter Ranch Winery Railroad – You can visit the winery to view the trains at no cost, but if you wish to ride you will need to make a reservation.

Besides excellent wines the food and views from the restaurant are excellent.

From the website:

The Grand Vineyard Train Tour

Hop aboard a Paso Robles winery tour you won't find anywhere else in California. Our very own Halter Ranch locomotive will take you on a winding tour of the vineyard estate while you relax in a handcrafted Swiss train.

As you journey through our vineyard, you'll be treated to stunning works of sculptural art, historic local landmarks, and endless panoramic views. All capturing the essence of the Central Coast's lush landscape.

As a highlight, you'll see our fascinating winemaking process unfold before your eyes. The Paso Robles Grand Vineyard Train Tour includes detailed explanations of our viticulture practices, showcasing our commitment to sustainability and organic farming processes. Your tour begins at the Train Depot. Pull into the main tasting room parking lot and make your way down to our private rail station. Your conductor awaits with a welcoming glass!

Saturday & Sunday: 11:30AM and 1:30PM

Price: \$35 Club / \$50 Non-member / \$10 Ages 20 & below

Duration: 1 Hour

Book A Reservation: <https://www.exploretock.com/halterranch/>

Please note that an additional reservation is recommended for enjoying lunch and tastings in the Estate Tasting Room before or after the Train Tour.

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=zKWWewhOgF0>

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 - CANCELLED

Chuck Jordan & Judith Dunlore - Welcome to the Arroyo Grande Valley Railroad, one of the newest garden railroads on the central coast. This folded dog bone layout includes over 350 feet of mainline with four-foot minimum radius curves and a maximum three percent grade supported on a “ladder-style” roadbed. Custom crafted cliffs and rock faces artistically create a natural backdrop, while drought tolerant plants fill the scene. Future additions will include the Village of Arroyo Grande, along with mining and petroleum industries. Chuck and Judith have visited countless garden railroads, attended workshops and invested years planning this “model railroad for the garden.” They are eager to share with visitors how they incorporated a garden railroad into their central coast landscape. Website: <https://cccgrs.org/portfolio/arroyo-grande-valley-railroad/>

Will Kastner & Lucinda Eileen - Lucinda and I welcome you to the M&SRR. During your visit, adults can enjoy our Airwire-controlled locomotives from our patios and our decomposed granite pathways while the consists circulate on 300 feet of track, including a mainline, a yard, a loop, a wye, and an agricultural siding. Children (without adult meddling!) can operate a locomotive and cars on our farm diorama, giving cats, cows, and ducks rides around the farm. We hope everyone will enjoy our circus diorama and our operating Western-Cullen-Hayes No. 333 Crossing Bell. We look forward to your visit. Full Disclosure: As railroads are in real life, the M&SRR is subject to unpredictable toxic derailments, especially frequent in the months following Fourth of July fireworks sales. Website: <https://cccgrs.org/portfolio/monarch-sand-railroad/>

Bernie & Vickie Meister - The Conejo and Tortuga Railroad is a free-lance designed layout of approximately 270 ft consisting of a large mountain and a distinctly mid 20's 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. Welcome Aboard. Website: <https://cccgrs.org/portfolio/conejo-tortuga-railroad/>

Don Morgan – Located in the Santa Ynez Valley, the Mountain View Railroad combines the charm of large-scale model trains in the garden, full-sized railroad artifacts and breathtaking views of Figueroa and Grass Mountains. Garden walkways allow visitors to follow model trains through forests of dwarf trees. Trains cross bridges, pass custom-built buildings and circumnavigate a koi pond. Also featured in the garden is a full-size caboose and line shack. An impressive collection of railroad related items compliments the garden railroad, including a railroad lamp and lantern collection, operating railroad signals and other nostalgic ephemera. The railroad is divided into two sections. Trains operate by both on-board battery power as well as track-power.

Website: <https://cccgrs.org/portfolio/mountain-view-railroad/>

Bill Obermeyer – This HO scale railroad in Atascadero, CA, blends Southern Pacific and Santa Fe operations in the mid-1950s, plus a little before and a little after. Motive power consists of Southern Pacific Black Widow diesels and Cab Forwards and Santa Fe steam and zebra-striped diesels.

The layout is in a separately room on Bill's horse ranch that is 24 feet x 17 feet. The layout is a dog bone design that drops down to two levels. The top section starts at a High Sierra lumber mill scene with three reverse, staging, passing loops and then goes through bridges to reach Glendale, California. The line then descends down to a dessert section that resembles Monument Valley, Arizona with passing sidings in between. After going through the desert, it emerges onto a bottom level and makes it way to the bottom three reversing loops that feature a wharf scene where lumber can be off-loaded to ocean going ships.

Minimum radius is thirty-two inches and all track is Micro Engineering Code 83. Except for two curved Walters turnouts all are Micro Engineering Number 7s. The layout is DCC powered with NCE controls. The room's backdrop features twelve long sections from BackDrop Warehouse that, with some difficulty, all match and blend together over a span of sixty feet.

The layout was constructed by Bill with one exception: Fellow local NMRA member Rick Fulkerson was a tremendous help with his vast knowledge of electronics and he made custom control boards for automatic turnout controls on the six reverse loops.

Without Rick's help this would have never been done!

Layout is approximately seventy percent complete.

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.ocengineers.com/>

Paul & Shuri Patterson - The HO double deck layout features model areas of San Francisco including a 3D printed Golden Gate Bridge, Painted Ladies, Ferry Building, and Coit Tower. Disneyland has main street station, fire house, castle, and the haunted mansion. These is a Sierra Nevada style mining area, small towns, industrial areas and a circus. The Garden Railway features a 1/5 scale version of Walt's Disney Carolwood Pacific Barn, a miniature train station, passenger platform and the towns of Succulent, Fountain, Willow and Solvang, plus a European style village. The lower loop has over 150 feet of track and two reversing loops. The upper loop has over 150 feet of track and "S" curves traveling through giant redwood and miniature Alberta spruce trees.

Website: <https://cccgrs.org/portfolio/the-californian-garden-railroad/>

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

Video: <https://youtu.be/1AMpm9zQjuI>

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_{n3} 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=NwjxSpgfsvU>

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.