

**February 2012 Central Savannah River Division News.
Division 9 of the Southeast Region of the NMRA**

Happy Valentine's Day! The Tuesday night group is taking the night off so the model railroaders may spend the night with their spouses instead of running trains.

Here is the latest for our Division.

Don Barnes and I attended the layout tours held by the Palmetto Division. We saw two layouts in the morning, had a good BBQ lunch, and then went on to three more layouts. Saw some good modeling and picked up a few ideas for our own layouts. There were nearly 20 folks in attendance, so there was a good opportunity for discussions. Don and I continue to work on arranging for a weekend operating session now and then for our local model railroaders, and those from neighboring divisions.

My layout work has basically been trying to stomp out the last remaining gremlins. With the layout basically complete, going through and troubleshooting for the layout operating sessions. Gives me a chance to run trains around also. Especially in N scale, tweaking and repairs are a never ending scope of work.

The Tuesday night OFRRA group has started to through a social / clinic night into the mix. I hosted the first such evening, with a clinic on car switching, and also walked through the operations of one of the tougher (fun) locals on my layout. Don Barnes will host the next session, with training on classification yard switching for his new Brunswick Yard on his Baltimore and Ohio layout. Memberships are available in the Tuesday night group and there are no dues. See the OFRRA yahoo group or drop me an email for more information.

I'm starting to work on my clinic for the Gatlinburg convention. Also have my hotel reservations in hand. Hope to see some of you there, it promises to be a good convention with an operating session day on Thursday, and model railroad celebrities Lou Sassi and Allen McClelland attending and giving clinics. June 1 – 3.

The Fall 2011 Issue of the Region Newsletter, the SouthErneR, is available at <http://ser-nmra.org/sites/ser-nmra.org/files/pubs/souv52n4.5.pdf>

Latest News from National – and be sure to vote in the national elections!

- *The Kalmbach Library's immensely popular "The Postwar Freight Car Fleet" book has sold out.*
- *The Grand Rails 2012 Convention still has some space left for modular layouts at the National Train Show so if someone in your Division or Region wants to show the world what they've done, go to www.gr2012.org and click on the "Contact us" page. Have them tell the committee what they've done and the committee will get things rolling.*
- *More Grand Rails 2012 news: The convention has some great things planned for non-rails. There's a cooking demo that will make attendees think they're watching a stand-up comedian do a cooking show and great entertainment at the luncheon in one of the most beautiful ballrooms in the country. There's also a ride on a dune schooner to see the 1100 acre Saugatuck Dunes! Have non-rails go to www.gr2012.org for all the details.*

And some of last month's important news bears repeating:

- *This year registration for Grand Rails 2012 will be handled in a new way. Instead of the large registration package inserted into NMRA Magazine, the full package can be downloaded from*

www.gr2012.org. Those who prefer a printed piece can send their request, along with their name and address to: GR 2012 Registrar, 4165 Costa NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525. There will also be a registration form and ad appearing in an upcoming issue of NMRA Magazine.

• NMRA elections. The official ballot was prepared by the National Nominating Committee according to the procedures laid out in the Regulations and the Executive Handbook (available at www.nmra.org). It will appear as an insert in the center of the February issue of NMRA Magazine, which will be mailed to all voting members. Ballots must be returned to NMRA headquarters, "Attention Ballot Committee," and must be postmarked by April 10, 2012 and received by April 15, 2012.

Here are the job titles and candidates as they appear on the ballot:

o President:

Charles W. Getz, IV, HLM

o Vice President - Administration:

Howard Goodwin

Clark Kooning, MMR

Dave Thornton

o Vice President - Special Projects:

Bill Kaufman

James "Lump" Lupfer

o At-Large North American Director

Mike Brestel

Miles Hale, MMR

o Eastern District Director

John Roberts, MMR, HLM

o Pacific District Director

Mike Bartlett

Kelly Loyd

Rob Peterson

If you have any questions or comments about any of the above, please send them directly to a Director or Officer. You'll find those addresses at www.nmra.org or in NMRA Magazine.

Until next time,

Steve Prevetie

CSR Division Superintendent

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<http://ser-nmra.org/division/central-savannah-river>

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