

## MAY 2012 NEWS

A quick note as I ready for attending the SER convention at the end of the month.

### NOMINATIONS FOR DIVISION OFFICERS

It's now been two years since Mike Sherbak and I became officers of the Division, and officially our terms will expire in October 2012. If anyone would like to volunteer to be nominated to be an officer, we'd happily accept the nomination. There needs to be at least two officers for the Division to be legal, but may be up to four (Super, Vice Super, Treasurer, Secretary). So far, we don't have a Treasury to take care of, but for legal and insurance purposes we do need to have at least two duly elected officers. So, please step forward and participate with and for the group.

I'm going to make phone calls and/or send out postal mail letters in June to members who don't get these emails, or to those I don't see on Tuesday nights. If you'd like to volunteer, just drop me an email or give a phone call.

I will schedule the Division official annual business meeting during October, or if we end up running a mini-meet around that time, I'll schedule the meeting to be concurrent with the mini-meet.

- Steve Prevette  
[prevette@atlanticbb.net](mailto:prevette@atlanticbb.net)  
803-392-7684

### A WORD FROM THE REGION:

All members are hereby given notice that the next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Region, National Model Railroad Association will be held Friday, June 1, 2012 at 9:00 AM at the site of the 2012 SER Convention:

Glenstone Lodge  
504 Historic Nature Trail  
Gatlinburg, TN 37738

All members are invited to attend.

Rick Coble, SER Secretary

### WORDS FROM NATIONAL

- At Grand Rails 2012, there will be a **drawing for four cab rides** from among the participants in the Little River Railroad tour. The cab rides will be in the railroad's #110, a 4-6-2 Pacific built by Baldwin, during its trip to Quincy and back. The train's consist will contain a WWII troop car, two converted stock cars, and three cabooses. In addition, the Little River RR's two other locomotives will be on display for photographs. In fact, you can even climb on them!
- More convention news: The **Grand Rapids Model Railroad Historical Society** is producing an HO-scale model of a true local railroad landmark: the Bridge Street Signal Tower. The prototype, still standing near the convention

hotel, was built by the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad to stand guard over the railroad's crossing of five streets. Only 100 of these craftsman laser-cut kits will be available at a **special Grand Rails 2012 Convention price of \$65**. Members can see photos and get a brief history of the crossing tower at [www.gr2012.org/towerkit.htm](http://www.gr2012.org/towerkit.htm) .

- The **4th Division of the Pacific Northwest Region** has signed on as a co-sponsor of this year's Narrow Gauge Convention in Seattle. The 4th Division will be signing up members for the NMRA throughout the event.
- Because the NMRA's Online Archives has been such a rousing success, **several prominent photographers and collectors have begun to donate portions of their collections to the NMRA**. The first is noted author/photographer Louis A. Marre, who's donated hundreds of large-format negatives of many subjects. Gregory Sommers has also donated a large collection of freight car slides, and David Lange has donated a large number of scanned images from the collection of the late Jim Morris. Watch for these exciting additions to the NMRA Online Archives in the near future. Hopefully continued donations to The Diamond Club will cover the cost of scanning and preparing the images.

And an important repeat from last month:

- **Grand Rails 2012 is looking for volunteers** who'd be willing to donate an hour or two of their time at the convention doing things like contest room security, helping with registration check-in, silent auction set-up and tear-down, and bus loading. If you're interested and have an hour or two you'd like to donate, contact Mark Baldwin, Vice Chair of Volunteers, at [gr2012volunteers@gmail.com](mailto:gr2012volunteers@gmail.com) for more details.

*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](http://www.nmra.org) or in NMRA Magazine.*

*And if you're changing email addresses, please let me know at this email address: [NMRA-infonet@earthlink.net](mailto:NMRA-infonet@earthlink.net)*

-Gerry Leone, MMR  
NMRA Communications Director

## **JUNE 2012 NEWS**

items of note for this update. First, the convention and operating session in Gatlinburg was a great time. Rick Bell from our division gave a clinic on decoder installations. I gave a clinic on operations. There were a wide variety of clinics and tours available. I hope those that did not attend will consider attending the National in Atlanta GA next year!

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: Hard to believe, but Mike Sherbak and I have been your officers now for the past two years. It is time for new officers to come in and take over! Similar to two years ago, this is notification that nominations will be accepted through September 1, 2012. You may nominate yourself or (with their permission) another NMRA member of the division. I will be phoning all division members in July to ask for volunteers. We can have up to four officers for the division - Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Secretary, and Treasurer. We must have at

a minimum two elected officers in order to maintain our NMRA division status. We will hold elections during September and announce the results at the annual business meeting (below).

**ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING:** The required Division Annual Business Meeting will be held in conjunction with the mini meet in Aiken SC September 28-29. See details below about the Mini Meet.

**TUESDAY NIGHT OPERATORS:** The Tuesday night operators (OFRRRA) continue operations. We have plenty of openings for new operators, from novice to experienced. My big recent project was to install Train Order signals on my Burnt Hills and Big Flats. This makes it easier to keep track of where you have clearance to, and don't need to stay monitoring the radio so much to hear if the dispatcher is trying to contact you. If your train arrives in a train and the train order signal is red in your direction, either walk over to the dispatcher or call him up on the radio for your orders.

\*\*\*\*\* AIKEN MINI MEET \*\*\*\*\*

The Southeast Region will kick off the first of a series of Mini-Meets this fall. On September 29, a mini-meet will be held in Aiken SC in the Central Savannah River Division. This will be a FREE event, open to NMRA members and soon-to-be NMRA members.

What is a mini-meet? It is a day long event hosted by the Southeast Region held in some of the smaller divisions of the Region. The Region sponsors the event, which the local Division finds the location and other activities.

The mini-meet will be held on Saturday, September 29 at the University of South Carolina campus in Aiken SC. We will have two rooms for our use. Doors will open at 9AM Saturday. Information on the meeting location may be found at <http://web.usca.edu/conference-center/>

**PLANNED SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES:**

Friday Night, 6PM: Meet at Bobby's Barbeque (<http://www.bobbysbbq.com/bbq2.html>) for a buffet dinner. We will have a meeting room in the facility to eat in. This dinner is intended for those who are arriving for the mini-meet, including the SER Board of Directors.

Friday Night, after dinner. Head to Steve Prevette's Burnt Hills and Big Flats N scale model railroad (<http://www.ser-nmra.org/content/burnt-hills-big-flats-layout-tour>) for a layout tour. Hang around for an operating session into the evening hours!

Saturday Morning, 9AM. Meet at the USC Aiken Conference Center. The Board of Directors will meet in one room, and clinics will be held in the other room.

Saturday Noon. Break for lunch. As part of lunch break, go visit the Aiken Railroad Depot (<http://www.aikenrailroaddepot.com/Information.html>). View this historical reconstruction of the station building, and tour the museum HO model railroad on the second floor. The layout was recently photographed for inclusion in a future Kalmbach publication.

Saturday Afternoon, 2PM. Several activities planned. Drive over to Don Barnes' monstrous 36 foot by 78 foot Baltimore and Ohio home layout. This under construction layout is a grand undertaking. Hang around for the rest of the afternoon for an operating session, or return to USC Aiken for the activities there.

USC Aiken - Saturday Afternoon, 2PM - Clinics on one room, possible swap meet and AP model judging in the other.

Adjourn at 5PM. Depending upon interest we may head off together for dinner, or plan an evening activity at one of the layouts.

For information, contact CSR Division Superintendent Steve Prevette at [prevette@atlanticbb.net](mailto:prevette@atlanticbb.net), or phone 803-392-7684, We would like people to register for the event, even with the no admission cost. The Friday night dinner's cost is \$8.95 at the restaurant.

Hope to see you all there, or on an upcoming Tuesday night,  
Steve

## **JULY 2012 NEWS**

Welcome.

Mike Sherbak and I have been your division officers for the past two years. It is time to hold a new set of nominations and an election for the next two years. The Division may have up to four officers, Superintendent, Vice Superintendent, Treasurer, and Secretary. If you would like to volunteer to be an officer, please contact me through phone, email, or postal mail at my address at the end of this newsletter by August 20.

We will hold the official election during the 2012 business meeting, which will be held during the upcoming SER Mini Meet (see below). If any position has more than one nomination, I will make sure to get ballots out to all members in early September.

### **MINI MEET TO BE HELD IN AIKEN SEPTEMBER 28-29**

**The Southeast Region will sponsor a mini meet to be hosted by our division in Aiken at the end of September. We will meet Friday night for a dinner at Bobby's, have two layout tours, a tour of the Aiken Train Depot, and clinics at USC Aiken on Saturday. We will hold our annual division business meeting during the day on Saturday at USC Aiken. At that time we will hold the formal election (counting any ballots received prior to the meeting) and announce the Division officers for the next two years. There is no admission cost (you do need to pay for your meal at Bobby's if you attend that) to NMRA members or the public. See flyer attached with this letter.**

The Tuesday night operators group continues. This group is open to any model railroader interested in attending operating sessions in a round robin group.

I hope that you will take advantage of the mini meet, volunteer to be an officer, and/or update your email address with the Division. Happy Model Railroading!