

November 2011 CSRA and Atlantic Division News

Steve Prevette

9<sup>th</sup> Division Superintendent

Acting 8<sup>th</sup> Division Superintendent

I have attached the minutes of the Southeastern Region Board of Directors meeting to this email. In the minutes there is a discussion of the resignation of Nate Stone as 8<sup>th</sup> division superintendent. Again, I'd like to thank Nate for his long years of service to the division.

In the coming year, we will need to decide what to do for the future. If a person steps forward from 8<sup>th</sup> division to be Superintendent, then we will continue on as before. If not, we may try merging the division into neighboring divisions. This may help gain more of a critical mass of folks to run a division, but it does increase the driving distances to get to a meeting. At this point however, there have been extremely few meetings to even worry about driving distances for!

The 9<sup>th</sup> division business meeting was scheduled for October 22. No NMRA members showed up. However, some constructive activities did occur, and below are what I will consider to be the minutes for the 2011 9<sup>th</sup> division business meeting:

Nobody from the division showed up to the meeting site, but I did have a good discussion with Scott Raines, a volunteer at the Aiken train station.

Roy Tritt and I talked on the phone prior to the meeting. Roy, thanks for the offer to help. Roy has mentioned he is will to do judging for Achievement Program. And we had a discussion of division history, and the latest situation with the Atlantic division.

Scott is one of the volunteers at the Aiken Train Station Museum. Since the museum has a model railroad display, they do get quite a bit of interest from model railroaders. He usually points them to the NMRA national website. I did show him where the Regional and Division page is on the internet, and he added them as "favorites" on the museum computer. I left materials on the Gatlinsburg convention, Piedmont division layout tours, and copies of the Southerner for the reading table. I think it will be good to stay in touch with the museum, they may be a method for recruiting new NMRA members and Tuesday night operators.

I believe that a continuing contact with the Aiken museum will be useful for the NMRA. I will continue to provide materials for the reading area. Don Barnes, a member of the Tuesday night operators' group here in Aiken, is heavily involved in the museum.

For future consideration, please take a look at the convention activities coming up in Gatlinsburg. See <http://ser-nmra.org/convention/2012-gatlinsburg-convention> for information.

I believe that we have some good possibilities for future road trips. Jack Varadi and the Piedmont Division have offered to host a visit from us to their area on January 28. I do need to know if you are interested in attending.

The Tuesday night group recently hosted a visit from the AMROC club in Columbia SC. I see by their website they have some open houses coming up -> <http://www.amroc.org/>.

Division member Andy Chandler also found a listing for a Christmas Train Show in Columbia <http://trc.trains.com/events.aspx?page=info&eventid=16477> on December 10.

From the Atlantic Division, I did get a chance to talk to Mark Schultz on the phone. There is a possibility of a reciprocal set of trips from Aiken to North Charleston to view operating layouts.

Please keep in mind that the 9<sup>th</sup> Division website is now at <http://ser-nmra.org/division/central-savannah-river>. I have posted copies of these newsletters. I am also working on a tourbook of my Burnt Hills and Big Flats N scale railroad and hope to post that soon.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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