

The President's Car

Roy Masterson rwmasterson@epbfi.com

As you all know, the SER couldn't hold an Annual Convention this year, but

Superintendent Eric Hansmann and members of the Cumberland Division held a fantastic Music City Mini-Meet on Saturday, October 8 at the Lane-Agri Park in Murfreesboro, TN. There were 65 attendees and 10 very good clinics at this one-day event.

Friday evening, about 25 or so of us met for dinner at Puckett's Grocery in downtown Murfreesboro. In addition



to clinics there was a nice Tennessee T-Trak N scale operating layout, and over 100 models on display. Congratulations to Jim Horton for

earning 4 Merit Awards during AP Judging. You can see photos of the event at: www.pbase.com/ehansmann/2022 music city minimeet.

The SER held the annual Board of Director's meeting and the General Membership meeting Saturday morning. Walt Liles gave an update of the Cartersville Express 2023 SER Annual Convention that will be held in Cartersville, GA hosted by the Piedmont Division September 14-17, 2023. The convention will be held at the Clarence Brown Conference Center, 5450 Highway 20 NE, Cartersville, GA.

There are 39 clinic slots to fill and if you'd like to present a clinic, get in touch with Tom Gordon (TomGordonPiedmontDiv@gmail.com). Currently there are 12 layouts for operations with over 119 slots for guest operators. If you are in the Atlanta area and would like to open your layout for operations, please contact Scott Dunlap. To register for the convention, or to get more details, visit the convention website at: www.2023serconvention.org.

Sandy Warrington gave a presentation for the 2024 SER Annual Convention that will be held in Decatur, AL hosted by the Mid South Division. The convention will be held June 20-23, 2024, at the Doubletree by Hilton at 1101 6th Ave NE in Decatur. This hotel has all the facilities required to host a convention including clinics, contest room, non-rail hospitality room, reception, and banquet. The Mid South Division will also hold a train show during the convention.

The election results were announced at the General Membership Meeting:

- Bill Raymond, Vice President
- Walt Liles, Secretary
- Ken Mattern, Director
- Steve Prevette, Director

During the General Membership meeting we were able

to honor 4 SER members who have stepped up and continue to make the SER one of the best Regions in the NMRA. Larry Smith MMR, Honors and Awards Chairman, presented the Chairman Award to John Stevens, SER Director (#1), and the Dave Muller Award to Eric Hansmann. Superintendent, Cumberland Division (#2).

I presented the President Award to Rick Coble, NMRA VP who could not be in attendance (#3), and to our SER SouthErneR Editor, Ed Juaire (#4)





The SER recognizes the impact volunteers make on the

quality of your NMRA membership. They serve as mentors to other model railroaders, always willing to share their knowledge and techniques to make us better modelers. And by serving in leadership positions at the local or national level. Congratulations to this year's recipients!

Randall Watson sold the last of the Region's HO scale covered hopper cars

during the mini meet! We started out with 300 cars way back in 2016. Thank you, Randall, for sticking with this project from the beginning!

With the success of the Music

City Mini-Meet, we need to look for other possibilities of holding future mini-meets around the region. The SER will support Division's with providing funds for facilities to hold the events and the division would be able to raise funds by charging admission. SER





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Editor: Ed Juaire - 782 Jays Way, Ringgold GA 30736-8954 423-598-9925; SouthErneR@ejpj.com.

Material for publication is welcomed! Please send materials to the editor. All submissions become the property of **The SouthErneR** unless otherwise contracted. Do not send previously published materials please!

The SouthErneR is mailed to members of the Southeastern Region and interested parties who have paid the subscription rate of \$10.00/year.

Submittals Due: Spring Feb 15; Summer May 15; Fall Aug 15; Winter Nov 15

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Education

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I hope this issue of *The SouthErneR* finds your family and you well and virus free. Also hope your division is active.

Attending conventions and meetings are a great way to get ideas for your home projects. The clinics offer a lot of information to help us along the way to better layouts and models. The layout tours also offer interesting ways others have handled their visions.

I attended the Mideastern Region Convention in Charlotte, NC this past October. At the convention hotel there were 5



modular layouts in Z, N, HO, S, and O scales. I am told (#1) this is an end section for a T track N scale module.

It made an interesting part to join the modules together. There were a few in the layout assembled there.

The next one (2) was connected with this first one to make a 180 degree turn

on 2 longer sections of straight modules.



Another part of the convention is the Open House Layout Tours. I visited 6 layouts. While you do see some of the same building kits on many of them, the owners have assembled some of them quite differently than the provide plans.

Another feature that I enjoyed seeing were these small coal unloading areas. We had one in the town I grew up in. A hopper is spotted over a section of track that has had the ground removed under the track maybe 3 to 5 feet wide. A conveyor belt machine is placed under the

track and sticks out one side of the track to then lift the coal from under the hopper. Dropping the coal onto another conveyor that gets the coal up into a truck to move to a pile or just makes a pile to later load a delivery truck.

Yes, the trucks look the same. But you can see it is a small industry. There should be an office building or at least an outhouse nearby.

The one in my town had a bag-

I & W is the will read. Dhote below is from

ging operation, DL&W is the railroad. Photo below is from *Lackawanna Railroad Facilities* Vol 1, by Robert Yanosey, publisher, Morning Sun Books.



If you have a topic that I may be able to help with. Or if you have a clinic you want to present to the Region. Please let me know. We can set up a webinar to show it. The SER does have the Zoom accounts we can use for presentations, discussions, or meetings should the need arise. Soon the NMRA will have software to replace the Zoom meeting software. We will hear about it when it is ready for our use. I am also looking for topics and presenters for more Webinars, please let me know at vze5crrw1@outlook.com if you would like to present one or know someone that would.

Enjoy life and take care. SER

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SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2023

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5450 Georgia Highway 20, Cartersville, GA

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> Keynote Banquet Speaker Todd Stennis - Amtrak

Self-guided Layout Tours - Friday through Sunday Operating Layout Sessions - Thursday through Saturday

> Non Rail Activities include Gibbs Garden - Lunch - Big Door Vineyards Booth Western Art Museum - Lunch

Information is subject to change. Please watch for updated info and register at

2023serconvention.org

Hosted by the Piedmont Division, NMRA









Are you interested in serving on the SER Board of Directors? SER positions to be elected in 2023 are:

President

Treasurer

Two (2) Directors

All serve terms that end in 2024. If re-elected, you can serve an additional term consecutively. Terms begin at the Annual Meeting September 16, 2023.

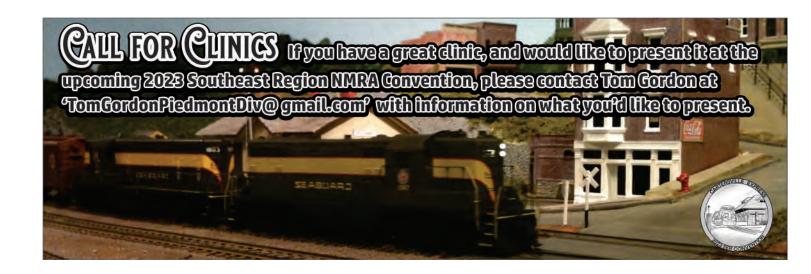
Candidates must submit via email a short biography stating why they wish to serve and in which position and should include a passport size photo.

Send submissions no later than February 1, 2022 to:

Rick Coble SER Nominating Committee Chair rvcoblenmra@gmail.com

If you are interested in running and contact the nominating committee after February 1, 2022, you must run as a write-in. Your name will not be placed on the ballot.

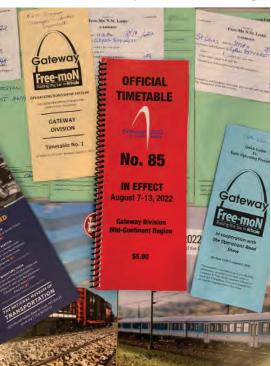
To be eligible you must be a voting-eligible member in good standing living in the Southeastern Region.



Gateway 2022 - NMRA Convention

St. Louis, MO - August 7-13 article and photos by Andy Chandler

I attended the 2022 National Convention in St. Louis, arriving on Wednesday and staying through the National Train Show on Sunday. There was an impressive array



of clinics, operating sessions, layout tours, prototype tours, modular layouts and even a prototype fan trip. I accompanied my brother Rick, who displayed his modular club's layout, Central Indiana N-Trak. The convention hotel was the Marriott Grand downtown St. Louis.

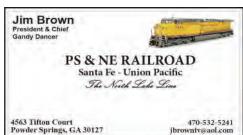
The National Train Show was located in Collinsville, Il, a 30-minute bus ride from the hotel.

Highlights

Registration was a breeze and the clinics, SIG groups, and contest room were all centrally located. Buses provided transportation to sites distant from the convention hotel. For my brother and me, the best experience was meeting great folks and spending time fellowshipping with them. We met fellow modelers from Switzerland, Germany, and England, and I am sure we missed other countries. It was also fun to meet the top-notch modelers as well as those in the modeling media and press, and innovative manufacturers and vendors.

Everyone I spoke with was engaging and truly interested in my comments and questions. My brother and I also did self-tours with fellows from his group, who knew the area. This was a great benefit and overlapped nicely with a clinic as you will see. I decided to attend clinics at the cost of the layout tours; this is always a pleasant dilemma. I hope to see these layouts in the future.





Prototype Adventures

Top of the list was a visit to the National Museum of Transportation which I had not seen since 1983. What a wonderful museum and I recommend it, even for preschoolers. The train shed was arranged to give the impression of a large



passenger train shed with ample space to wander and select great photo angles. We spent three hours being a kid again.

Next was the Terminal Railroad Association fan trip. The coaches were immaculate and inviting as we rode over the



MacArthur Bridge to the Illinois side of the river. **Departing Union Station** eastbound allowed us to view multiple bridge and trestle works. I know why modelers enjoy building these structures. This trip permitted many views not available from ground level and supplied great modeling reference photos. The interaction of river and rail transportation infrastructure and watching operations was equally impressive. These were all things I had read about for years, but never experienced firsthand.



The evening before the fan trip, a fire occurred adjacent to the north-south mainline, which shut it down completely for nearly a day. No traffic was allowed to pass the site due

to hazardous materials. Consequently, our morning trip was cut short as it was planned to travel in a full circle, departing eastbound over the MacArthur Bridge and returning to the station westbound over the Eads Bridge. We thus could only approach the Eads Bridge and return in reverse to the station. The afternoon trip was able to follow the planned route; Rick and I were still greatly



appreciative of the trip. I also wish to complement the TRRA crew who were very hospitable and gracious. We greatly appreciated the entire event.

Railfanning East St. Louis, TRRA yard and Kirkwood MO

Friday evening, two carloads left the train show and railfanned the TRRA yard. This provided ample safe areas with great photo opportunities. Rick and I attended a great clinic presentation about steel mills, something we knew nothing about beforehand. Serendipity is great, as we passed the Amsted mill and coking ovens. I recognized all the large facilities and structures, because of the clinic we attended. Great stuff. Now I know why steel mill modeling is popular. After a couple hours, we motored to Kirkwood MO train station, which was still open until the

passing of the last Amtrak train of the day. We met other fans there as this was a great railfanning spot on a warm summer evening.

Clinics

The greatest challenge at any convention is to attend as many clinics as possible while choosing the most desirable talks. I got to attend some but missed out on many others that were of great interest. I attended wonderful presen-

tations by Georg Bogatuk, Joe Fugate, Doug Geiger, Mark Juett. Dean Smith and Eric White. All were very polished presentations and gave me great information. Dean Smith's presentation, "Railfan's Scrapbook, joining a railfan trip on the ET&WNC". was a recreation of an actual fan trip but using his beautiful ET&WNC home layout. As my family had just spent 4 days in Boone, NC in November, his presentation was very realistic. I felt like I was



actually there. This clinic was the most innovative and creative presentation I have seen. I knew it was a model, but I felt as if I was experiencing the real thing. But isn't this what we all want to achieve? I have a long way to go to achieve this myself.

Operations Road Show

We were able to operate two sessions using the Gateway Free-moN very large layout. I was prepared as our CSRA Division 9 operates very similarly on Steve Prevette's home layout. The present operation used prototype and





handwritten clearance forms and train order forms. This was a lot of work for the presenters, but I was very much appreciative of their efforts. The layout was a very large point to point with helices; it performed flawlessly, and I learned much.

SIG groups

This was a joy to see the efforts of special groups and speak with their proponents. They are all very innovative and creative. I consider the SIG groups the incubator of innovation in our hobby.

Contest Room

I wish I could have spent more time here to study the models, not just breeze by them. The contest models are another source of inspiration for me. It was a little overwhelming to marvel at the work that was done, but I should have invested more time in this room. A wharf/



crab fishing diorama was outstanding (photo left), and my favorite caboose was a Pennsy N6b (photo right). I am not doing justice in this short report, to all the fine work done by the entrants: the contest room deserves a thorough article on its own.

Modular Layouts

The Narrow-gauge modular layout at the convention hotel was something I could not stop marveling. Exquisite scenery and buildings certainly complemented the rolling stock in every way (*photo next page, top left*). It was great to see differing narrow gauge prototypes functioning together seamlessly. Now I know why narrow-gauge modelers are so passionate!

At the National Train Show, I was able to operate on a large, combined N -Trak layout. It would take 20 minutes to complete the circuit. My favorite module was a docked diesel submarine by Tom Figura (*photo next page*, *bottom left*).

There were multiple additional modular layouts in HO, Lego, and N scale. One track HO modelers were also present showing us some great modeling without using a lot of space. I get a bit overstimulated at these events, so I apologize for overlooking some fine work by others. But that is a pleasant feeling. It was great fun personally speaking with the manufacturers, vendors, and media folks in our hobby. It put a human face to what we experience virtually. I took the risk and purchased my first decoder (Tsunami 2), Decoder Buddy, and speaker to convert a Blue Box F7.





Amazingly, it all went together per the instructions and works great. It is good to try new things and I appreciated the help from the vendor.

In summary, the Gateway 2022 convention, despite its shortened organizational timeline, resulted in a great presentation for the NMRA and the Gateway Division.

PS: Two more highlights. Sugarfire Barbecue in downtown St. Louis was exceptional and convenient to the meeting. And who could forget Andy's Frozen custard in downtown Kirkwood. What could be better: Eating ice cream and watching trains during a pleasant summer evening. **SER**





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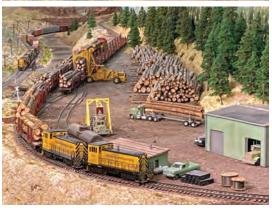




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IMRA *National Convention* 2 0 2 3 T E X A S E X P R E S S . C O M













Achievement Program

New Awards in Our Southeastern Region This Quarter



Cherokee Division

Golden Spike Award Lloyd A. Coon



Mid-South Division

Golden Spike Award Dieter Grethmann



Palmetto Division

Model Railroad Engineer Civil Certificate Thomas W. Langdale



Piedmont Division

Certificates

Model Railroad Author Norman Lundin



Master Builder Scenery Norman Lundin

Model Railroad Engineer Electrical John Stevens



Steel City Division

Association Volunteer Certificate Craig Gardner

Division AP Chairmen for Divisions which have them

Bluff City (10)

Greg Scharfetter; Gascharfetter@bellsouth.net; 901-219-4219

Carolina Mountain (15)

Ben Bartlett, MMR; b3j2c@yahoo.com; 818-883-2799

Cherokee (13)

Dale Bryant; livewire@fbright.com; 423-991-5243

Cumberland (11)

George Gilbert, MMR; grgilbert@comcast.net; 615-352-1254

Peter Banks MMR; pbnyc@bellsouth.net; 850-890-0987

Magnolia (14)

Troy Hight; troyhight69@icloud.com; 601-416-7617

Sandy William Warrington; wearrington@msm.com; 256-617-8098

Palmetto (7)

Howard Garner MMR; cascaderail@bellsouth.net; 864-878-4705

Charles Mason MMR; candimason@att.net; 770-993-1589

Richard Morris; rmorris52@twlakes.net; 931-864-3909

Smokey Mountain (12)

Larry Burkholder, labtexan@chartertn.net; 865-408-9903

Steel City (2)

Tom Schultz; svrr@charter.net; 205-879-3603

















The **SouthEneR** is a quarterly publication of the **Southern Region** of the **National Model Railroad Association**.

It is read by more than 1,400 members of the region plus numerous others.

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Southeastern Region Division News





Division 1 - Mid-South Dave Carlton dpcarlton59@gmail.com

Mid South Division has been accepted as host for the 2024 SER Convention. We are hard at work for early planning, organization, fulfillment and

control. This will be the first railroad-themed convention enterprise for Decatur, Alabama. Mid South Division is thankful for the civilian expertise being made available to us by Decatur Parks and Recreation, Decatur Historic Preservation Commission and the Historic Decatur Union Depot Museum.

We have been participating in and supporting local community efforts of the season such as passenger riverboat visits, Halloween celebrations, Thanksgiving, and Christmas layout setups, and operations in multiple scales at the Decatur Depot and commercial locations. The positive community responses to these efforts encouraged Mid South to

fully engage for the 2024 SER Convention.

Mid South Division in northern Alabama encompasses the U.S. Space and Rocket Center, Research Park, Redstone Arsenal, and classification and distribution yards for Norfolk Southern and CSX. We expect our hosting of the 2024 SER Convention to be a memorable event.

We intend as an adjunct to the convention to sponsor and host a Train Show in an excellent venue local to the Decatur Union Depot and the convention facility. Mid South welcomes those of you with expertise, who may wish to share.

Contact:

Andrew Smith Secretary, Mid South Division ICCEngineer@charter.net

Visit Mid South Division at www.midsouthnmra.org/MidSouth.php.

submitted by Andrew Smith, Secretary SER

Division 2 - Steel City

Whit Fancher ~ crownlandscapeservices@gmail.com

The Steel City Division (SCD) has been active the last year or so since the Covid restrictions were lifted. We've met the third Thursday evening except for the September meeting. We have been alternating meetings between The Wrecking Crew's home, the McWane Center and Smokey City Rails home at The Shops at Grand River. Our meetings have had anywhere from a dozen or so members to nearly thirty at one of the meetings. We have finally been able to spike down a permanent location, which is actually the location we used to meet prior to the pandemic! We are on track for the third Thursday of every month from here on out!

SCD have had some incredible presentations over the past few months. There was a presentation from a donor who gave the Heart of Dixie Railroad Museum (HOD) structures, rolling stock, locomotives etc., from his layout he had to disassemble for a move. The museum quality layout included a scratch-built model to scale of the Cincinnati Union Terminal Station including the interior! He gave us a layout tour via video of his museum quality layout which was beyond impressive to say the least. He has generously given just about everything to the HOD which plans on erecting a new building to house a new layout to display the museum quality structures etc.

The SCD plans on helping with the layout which will hopefully increase membership and attendance to our meetings and unify the clubs with all clubs becoming a 100% NMRA club. We have had a presentation on super detailing an L&N switcher locomotive, understanding how Arduino's

can aid in model railroading for switching, animation etc. and an interesting presentation on the basics of and a history on DCC with first generation home built DCC system as published in a magazine, eons ago on display. Our latest meeting was on the Strates Carnival train with displays of wagons, passenger cars etc. We also managed to have a business meeting to introduce the officers to the membership and go over some basic items a few months ago prior to a presentation.

Larry Smith, MMR, is our new AP Chair and we have had several members receive AP Certificates, Golden Spike awards and replacement of lost and/or never received certificates. We have some interesting and fun clinics and/or presentations scheduled for the future months and I'm hoping since we now have a permanent location, the attendance will increase. We have also been doing a Facebook Live presentation for the meetings which have lots of hits and comments. SER

YOUR PIKE COULD BE HERE

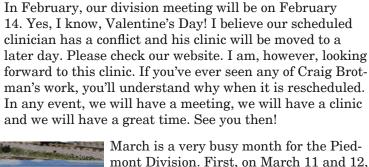
\$16/YEAR (FOUR ISSUES)

Division 5 - Piedmont David Kirkland ~ traindav73@gmail.com

Greetings and welcome to the beginning of Winter or so it seems. Must be Winter, I've

had the fireplace going the past couple of mornings!

Well, that's OK in my book because it gives us time to get into our layout rooms or workshops and get some model railroading work done! I've been doing just such a thing as the photo below shows. This is a complete build of an





the division will host its 25th Annual Model Train Show! It will be at the Clarence Brown Convention Center in Cartersville. This really is an amazing location. As a large benefit to our vendors, display layouts, and attendees, there is plenty of parking and it is free! The Model Train Show is the biggest fundraising event for us and one of our largest outreach events of the year. I'll be there the entire week-

end and hope to see you there, too!

undecorated 89-foot flatcar, like I've previously presented in clinic format, for my railroad. This is the first one I've done to include complete under body detailing and a full repaint. I'm pretty pleased. Hope you all are making progress on your own projects while its cold outside!

The Piedmont Division is headed into 2023 with a full slate of activities ahead of it. We have also just completed a successful 2022, with events ranging from our division meetings, our 2022 Model Train Show and our just completed 20th Annual Piedmont Pilgrimage. Thanks to Mike Deaton and Joe Sullivan, for all the work you did this year!

We have received notification from the IRS that we have been designated a 501(c)(3) charity under IRS rules. This has been a long process and I'm glad it is finally complete!

For 2023, we have our regularly scheduled division meetings, special events and, in this quarter, our 25th Annual Model Train Show! So, let us get started!

We kick off the year with our January meeting. The clinic for the month will feature Joe Sullivan discussing open car loads and team tracks. Specifically, he will identify which types of open loads we'd see being loaded, or unloaded, at a team track. This sounds interesting to me and hopefully will spill into the modern era where large concrete platforms surround a spur and a wide variety of industries pick up or deposit loads for rail shipment. I'm looking to model just such a location on my own layout.

We will continue January with an appearance at the City of Kennesaw's "Trains! Trains! Trains!" at The Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History and being held on January 28 and 29. This is a major railroading event for the city and is always very well attended. Hope to see you there!

Thank you, Hank Primus and Jim Travis, for all the work you do to pull this off! We will also have our division meeting just two days after the Train Show! At this meeting our clinic will feature Stefan Bartelski – 3D Printing 101, what you need to know if you're planning to do 3D printing. It is truly amazing what you can do in your own home, not to mention what various vendors sell, both on and off the internet. Some of the details I've added to my layout would not be possible without this incredible technology. This should be a cool clinic.

Also remember that Walt Liles is heading up the team that will be presenting the 2023 SER Convention later in the year. From Walt's regular reports to the division, it sounds like this will be a wonderful event. If you've not checked, please look at the Convention website, www.2023serconvention.org and see what the convention will offer. The website, itself, is pretty cool!

I think this is enough for now. It is time to get back to a project in the basement. As always, our website, www. Piedmont-Div.org contains the latest news about what's going on in the Atlanta area.

Until next time, Engauge! SER



Division 8 - Atlantic

Rick Fulkerson ~ rick@mountaingoatbroadcast.com

We had another great quarterly meet in Kingsland, GA at the Grand Isles Model Railroad Club in early November.

With 16 people in attendance, it is one of our largest gatherings. Best of all, we had 2 junior members in attendance.

We had a great audio/video presentation by Doug Scott



of railroading in the northwestern U.S. with an eye on structures, scenery and track side details as well as railfanning. A few photos from his presentation as shown here.

That was followed with a brief business meeting then adjourned for lunch and an invitation to ride the Georgia Coastal Railroad also located in Kingsland that afternoon. Those of us who went on the Georgia Coastal thoroughly enjoyed the ride and scenery in the open air car with perfect weather.

The club was unable to renew their lease in the depot but were invited to move into the Georgia Railroad Museum at the station for the Georgia Coastal Railroad. Our meet was their last run as they had already started packing for the move. They plan on reusing nearly 90% of the layout



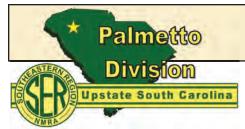




in the new location.

Also, great news is welcoming new members to the division. We are looking forward to our next meet early next year. **SER**





Division 7 - Palmetto Roger Liska ~ riggor@clemson.edu

The Palmetto Division has been working hard preparing for our Fall Division

Meeting and our yearly election of officers.

This year three positions were up for election: Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and Secretary. The BOD put together a great meeting agenda consisting of 2 clinics, 2 Open House member layout tours plus our ever-expanding T-Trak HO modular layout that we take to shows which was set up for our membership to see in operation.

Our meeting - held on November 5th - was a major success. 41 people were in attendance which included 3 of the 8 new members signed up by the SER Memberships for Military Forces Program (major KUDOs to the SER for having this program because it has been a great source of new members for the Palmetto Division), 1 new member by virtue of the NMRA Railpass Program and 2 visitors from the Carolina Mountain Division.

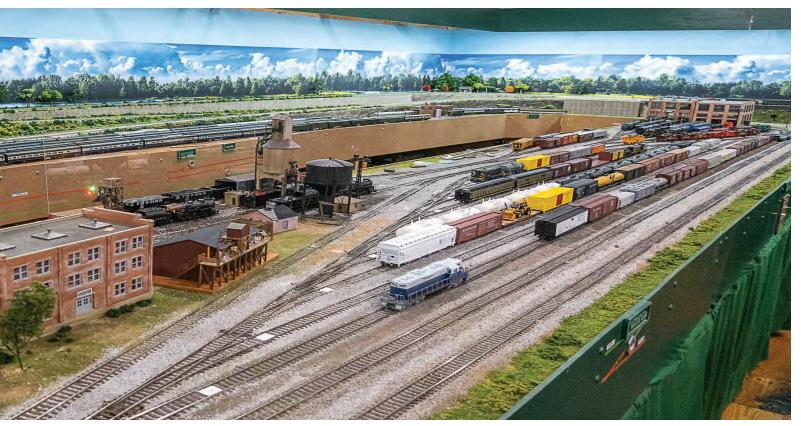
Scott Lister gave a historical clinic on the former "Greenville and Northern Railroad." Steve Todd gave an excellent clinic on "Replace your old DC power pack with Arduino for fun and functionality - it's much easier than you think" with live examples.

The elections provided a "changing of the guard" for the Palmetto Division. While Steve Todd stayed on as Division Secretary a new Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent were elected. Roger Liska (<u>riggor@clemson.edu</u>) is our new Superintendent and Chuck Jenkins (<u>cwj577986@msn.com</u>) is our new Assistant Superintendent. Please welcome them in their new positions in the Palmetto Division.

Two great layouts were open in the afternoon for members to visit. The first was Scott Lister's "Greenville and Northern Railroad." It is an S Scale layout that accurately depicts the railroad during its heyday. Most everything is scratch built to accurately display the railroad as it really was.

The second layout was Jack Varadi's HO scale "Greenville and Ohio Railroad." It is an award-winning layout that has been presented many times in Model Railroader magazine. A layout definitely worth visiting.

The Palmetto Division is winding down for the Holiday Season. The entire Palmetto Division wishes the entire NMRA world-wide membership a safe and joyous holiday season. We will gear up again in January with a "What's on Your Workbench" video broadcast scheduled for mid-January and the Central Railway Model and Historical Association (CRMHA) Train Show in Easley, SC on February 17 & 18, the biggest and best show in South Carolina and our 2023 Spring Division meeting on March 18 in Greenville.



Division 9 - Central Savannah River Andy Chandler ~ andy.chandler71@gmail.com

The CSRA Divison 9 held its annual business meeting November 5 in Aiken SC. There were 6 members in attendance, including a new member who has relocated from Charlotte.

Three clinics were held: Discussing new layout



ideas, fabricating LED turnout indicators in N scale, and roadway modeling using craft foam sheets.

Our next meeting is planned for February 11. SER



Division 11 - Cumberland Eric Hansmann ~ eric@hansmanns.org

We have been busy in the Cumberland Division

with our September and November meetings held via the Zoom platform. While our October gathering was held in conjunction with the Music City Mini-Meet. We meet monthly on the second Saturday at 1:30 pm. Our meetings are open to all modelers to share our activities and hobby techniques.

Congratulations to division VP Jim Horton for his NMRA Achievement Program progress. Four of his models achieved 87.5 points or better in AP judging at the Mini-Meet. Each of them earned a Merit Award.

For our September meeting, I dusted off an old presentation, "Introduction to Blogging." I enjoy reading online blogs and find them to be solid resources for modeling and operating inspiration. Rodger Coleman presented "Railfanning - a Sleepy Subdivision" at our November meeting. He's been chasing trains west of Nashville for a while and

shared his fine photos and stories.

Our Show & Tell sessions have been popular. A total of nine modelers shared their work on nineteen models at the September and November meetings. These presentations are mini clinics with discussion centered on techniques and modeling issues.

Each month regular email messages are sent to members with meeting reminders and summaries. It's an important communication to keep modelers informed of our local activities, plus online events such as NMRAx, virtual RPMs, and more.

We are firmly into the prime model railroading activity months. I am looking forward to our future meetings and hearing everyone's modeling progress.

Check out the photos below and on the next page from our members. $\ensuremath{\textit{SER}}$



The HO scale Pacific Railroad serves several logging camps high up in the mountains. Dan Cole modified and detailed these three, shorty work cars to keep those logging crews busy. He used several small tanks from his spare parts boxes. The center car carries water.



An HO scale Super Hustler is in process on Jim Horton's workbench. He shared this in-process image in our November meeting. He has cut up a couple Athearn Hustler shells to make a longer car body to fit a new chassis. More details to come in future meetings!



Edwin Rogers has been working on an N scale Walthers freight house. He combined the warehouse portion of a second kit to create a longer structure. He described installing lighting and interior warehouse details in our November meeting. VA.



Another freight car was completed for Eric Hansmann's 1926 fleet. Final weathering touches of chalk marks and placard remnants on the tack boards were completed in early November on this Westerfield Models kit of a 1916-design New York Central steel-sheathed automobile box car.



Jim Horton shared his scratch building project in our September Zoom meeting. He built this HO dilapidated shed from a few photos. While the prototype still stands, he was unable to get close for accurate measurements.



This former coach has seen better days on Dan Cole's HO scale Pacific Railroad. Dan went the extra weathering mile and enjoyed sharing his techniques in our September meeting.



Division 12 - Smoky Mountain Ken Johnson ~ kjohnson8264@gmail.com

The Smoky Mountain Division is still doing well at our new meeting place (Shoneys) in Knoxville. We have approximately 15-18 members attend the first Thursday evening every other month.

On September 8, our speaker was Allan Gartner, a DCC contributor for Model Railroader Magazine on the new Blunami decoder. This gave us a new look into the Soundtraxx wireless decoders for our locomotives. There was plenty of Q&A for the speaker. November 3rd, our next clinician was Steve Folino, on making and using real rust for weathering or detail enhancement to our railroad.

Our contributor's were appreciated in providing us with new items into our

modeling world. Steve Folino brought to our attention the use of "Zoom" to connect with other members in the Smoky Mountain Division in between meetings who may not be able to attend the normal evening meetings.

We are looking forward to this extra avenue in expanding our division membership participation. **SER**



Division 15 - Carolina Mountain Paul Spilman - paul@spilman.me

The Carolina Mountain Division has had a great Fall and we are looking forward to 2023.

Our attendance is holding steady with a good turnout at each meeting.

Our next meeting is planned for January 21 but note: This may change! Please be on the lookout for update emails for more information. If you are not receiving emails, please let me know at paul@spilman.me, or check out our Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/groups/CarolinaMountainDiv.

As mentioned in the previous issue, the Division undertook a project to enhance our table at the local train shows. We completed the improvements in time for the Fall show and we feel that the first show was a success (minus Hurricane Ian making an unwelcome guest appearance, hurting attendance) and a great learning experience.

Our original setup consisted of the standard SER vertical banner and the train show packs we get from Headquarters with back issues of the NMRA magazine and membership pamphlets laid out on the table. We did not receive a lot of attention with this setup, so the Division voted to add several new features, as well as improve the overall table appearance.

First off, we expanded to two tables instead of one. This allowed us to spread out and gave us room to add new materials and features to the table. We bought 2 fitted tablecloths, which really helped brighten things up.

The tables are unofficially divided into two areas: One being for NMRA membership information and the other being more general outreach and hands on.

For the NMRA table, we designed and purchased a trade show banner and frame (#1). This clamps onto the back of the table and holds an 18"x96" banner over 8' above the

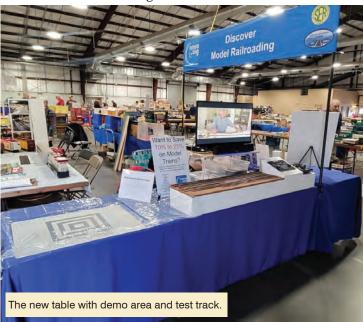


ground. We brainstormed what should be on this banner and after several rounds of discussion, the Division voted

on a large "Discover Model Railroading" catch phrase with the Carolina Mountain Division, SER, and NMRA logos on a blue banner. This banner really draws attention to the table from all over the room.

Next, we had several signs printed on foam core board. One has a dry erase section that announces our next meeting location and time; one highlights the NMRA Partnership program, and the last invites show attendees to ask us questions about model railroading.

We purchased several magazine and pamphlet holders, as well as various sign holders. We reached out to several of the Special Interest Groups and were able to highlight OPSIG and the new Women in Model Railroading SIG with signs and handouts for them in addition to some back issues of the OPSIG magazine.



For the "hands on" table, we voted to build a multi scale test track. The test track features Z, N, HOn3, HO, S, and O scale tracks, with both DC and DCC control available. We received donations for all materials except the Z scale track and a few minor hardware items. We also added HO and N scale NMRA gauges and coupler height gauges on the HO and N scale tracks.





acquired HO scale locomotive.

young show attendee how to operate his newly

dards and tree making. We hope to expand the selection for future shows.

Finally, we included a DVD player and small TV for playing model railroading and railfanning videos. These videos drew attention, and we had several people asking for certain types of videos to be played. The Division has a collection of railroad related DVDs we will be rotating out

We set aside an area for hands on demonstrations with a cutting mat.

We added a sign to advertise the next demonstration and the time.

For the first show, we had a couple of demonstrations including rolling stock tune ups using NMRA stan-



Tom Seay demonstrates how to use NMRA standards to improve operation of rolling stock.

throughout the show in the future.

We learned a lot from the first show, and we want to continue to improve as we set up at more shows in the future. We hope to be able to work with the show organizers going forward to help us highlight the demonstrations and availability of a free multi scale test track with both DC and DCC controls. SER



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

NMRA members can log in at www.nmra.org and click on the Benefits tab to view the NMRA Partnership Program. Please patronize all of our partners for some fantastic discounts as an NMRA member!

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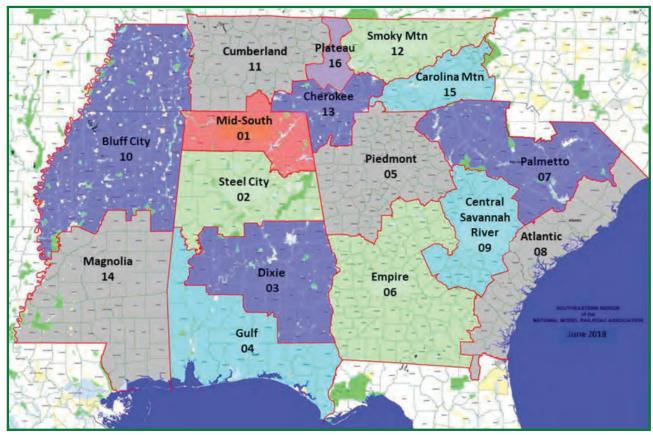
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THE CLUB CAR

This is a list of clubs and organizations in the Southeastern Region. If your club is accepting new members or visitors, kindly send the information to the Editor at: SouthErneR@ejpj.com. Please provide a contact name and phone number. Websites will be listed if given.

Atlantic - Division 8

Coastal Rail Buffs, Savannah, GA, Nate Stone, 912-354-2606 www.coastalrailbuffs.org

Charleston Area Model Railroad Club, Citadel Mall in Charleston, SC Tom Kabele, tkabele@sc.rr.com; www.camrc.club

Grand Strand MRRC, Myrtle Beach Mall, North Myrtle Beach, SC Joe Corsetti, 843-236-9148, yrusoslo728@aol.com; www.gsmrrc.org Golden Isles Model Railroad Club, Brunswick, GA

Helio Valdes, 912-261-2478; t29b52f4@comcast.net groups.yahoo.com/group/GIMRRC

Sun City Model RR Club, Bluffton, SC Doug Scott, deraildh2@aol.com

Bluff City - Division 10

The Memphis N-Scale Road Railers

The Memphis Society of Model Engineers - The 1st Saturday Night Group Highland St Church of Christ, 7:30 PM contact Ned for additionall info; nssavage@juno.com

Carolina Mountain - Division 15

Apple Valley Model Railroad Club, Hendersonville, NC Located in Hendersonville Station; www.avmrc.com

French Broad e'N'pire NTRAK Club, Hendersonville, NC

Chuck Place, 828-685-2726; hmp3@blueridge.net; www.fdr-ntrak.com

Waynesville Area Rail Roaders

Waynesville, NC; www.facebook.com/WARRNC

Western North Carolina Model Railroaders; email: webmaster@wncmrr.org

Central Savannah River - Divison 9

OFRRA Operators, Tuesday nights, Aiken SC, Steve Prevette, 803-594-5079

Cherokee Division 13

Chattanooga Society of Model Engineers, Dunlap, TN

Andy Morrison, 423-344-8502; www.csme-eprr.com

Chattanooga Modular Modelers, Inc. meet Monday & Thursday at 6:30 pm Mark McAllister, 423-424-0352; www.chattmodmod.org

Tennessee Valley Model Railroaders, Inc., Chattanooga, TN Steve Crowe, 423-443-1517; www.TVMRi.org

Cumberland - Division 11

Dixie Model Railroad Club, 2101 Belmont Blvd, Nashville, TN 37212 Eric Hansmann, 304-376-0256; eric@hansmanns.org

Mid-South Live Steamers, Columbia, TN, Hank Sherwood, 615-665-0512 www.midsouthlivesteamers.org; midsouthlivesteamers@yahoo.com

Nashville NTRAK, Nashville, TN, Mike Curtis, 615-479-7663 4900 Rucker Christiana Road, Christiana, TN 37037

macurtis@comcast.net; www.nashvillentrak.org

Nashville Garden Railway Soc., Nashville, TN, Ross Evans, 615-292-6555 Tennessee Central Railway Museum, Nashville, TN

Terry Bebout, 615-244-9001; terry.bebout@earthlink.net; www.tcry.org

Dixie - Division 3

Central Alabama Model RR Club, Montgomery/Prattville, AL Phil Hutchinson, 334-272-1933 or Joe Mashburn 251-363-8508

MGB Model Railroad Club, Prattville, AL Visitors welcome

Brett Scott, 334-799-3096; www.mgbrr.org

Wiregrass Steel Wheels Sub-Division, Dothan, AL

Dan Adams, 334-588-3312; danielma522@centurytel.net

Empire - Division 6

Flint River Model RR Club, Albany, GA, Jimmy Swinn, 229-883-3517 MGMRC - Middle Georgia Model RR Club, Warner Robins, GA

MGRA - Middle Georgia RR Association, Bill Jones

wrjones845@aol.com; middlegeorgiarailroadassociation.com

South Georgia Model RR Club, Hahira, GA, (Near Valdosta)

Bill Attaway, 478-954-9200; mgmrc@cox.net; www.mgmrc.org

Todd Tait, 229-548-3611

Caboose Club, Foley Railroad Museum, 125 E Laurel Ave, Foley, AL 36535 Bonnie Donaldson, 251-943-1818; foleymuseum@gulftel.com

CATT - Costal Alabama T-TRAK, Bruce Arbo, 228-669-6705

coastalalabamattrak@gmail.com, www.nationalt-traklayout.com

Emerald Coast Garden Ry Club, Jack Grill, 850-994-7226; www.ecgrc.com Usually meet on 3rd Saturday at noon in the Diner Car

of the West Florida RR Museum, Milton FL Glenn Samuel's Operating Group, Mobile, AL 205-914-0693

2nd Saturday of the month @ 1 p.m.; Gasamuel@aol.com

Miracle Strip Model RR Club, Shalimar, FL

Ray Follacchio, 850-865-8822

Mobile Society of Model Engineers, Alabama Gulf - Chapter, NRHS 8060 Morris Hill Rd, Semmes AL 36575-6424; Dave Miller, 251-689-2673

Pensacola Model Railroad Club (PMRC), Pensacola, FL

HO Division - Steve "Chip" Borona, 850-384-3206; www.PMRC.us

N Divison - Terry Tucker, 850-723-5390

Z Division - Joshua Murrah, 251-533-6481

Southwest Alabama Railroad Modelers (SWARM), Mobile, AL

Glenn Samuel, 205-914-0693, Gasamuel@aol.com

Monthly round robin meetings or event - contact for details.

West Florida Model Railroad Club, Milton, FL

Tom Augustine, 850-944-0471; www.wfrm.org

Magnolia - Division 14

Central Mississippi Model Railroad Association, Jackson, MS MS Ag and Forestry Museum, 1150 Lakeland Dr, Jackson MS 39216

Nils Larsen, 601-432-4500; www.cmmra.org

Mississippi Coast Model RR Museum, 504 Pass Rd, Gulfport, MS 39507 228-284-5731; timetrain54@yahoo.com; www.mcmrcm.org

Mid-South - Division 1

Northeast Alabama Model Railroad Club, Guntersville, AL Charles Dick, 205-878-2537; charlesdick@bellsouth.net

Redstone Model Railroad Club, Huntsville, AL; www.rmrrc.net

Coosa Valley Model RR Assoc. www.coosavalleymodelrailroad.com

Palmetto - Division 7

Associated Model Railroads of Columbia (AMROC), Columbia, SC

Clark Gregory, 803-781-7912; www.amro

Carolina Railroad Heritage Association, Inc.;

www.facebook.com/hubcityrrmuseum

Central Railway Model and Historical Association (CRM&HA), Central, SC Sandy Eistus, 513-325-8850; www.crmha.org

Piedmont N' Southern, Greenville, SC

Michael Offik, 864-884-2165; www.piedmontnsouthern.org

The Carolina Conspiracy (On30 modular) Andrew Gillette, 803-316-8128 amn_a_gillette@yahoo.com; groups.yahoo.com/group/carolina_on30conspiracy

Station 187 Model Railroad Club, Greer, SC; www.station187.net

Piedmont - Division 5

Atlanta Interlocking Model Railroad Club;

Charlie Crawford, 678-982-4699

Athens Bend Track Railroad Club

Peter Wood, 706-215-3313; www.facebook.com/AthensBendTrack

Atlantic Coast S-Gaugers, Bob Lacheen

home 770-578-9937; cell 404-431-8032; www.trainweb.org/acsg

Boomers, John Rieken, Saturday a.m.; OPS Athens, Gwinnett, Commerce areas email for specific dates; jrieken@windstream.net

Chattahoochee Express Operating Group, Chris White, 770-594-2618 Georgia Garden Railway Society, Terry Manning, 770-564-8822

temanning@aol.com www.ggrs.info

Georgia Society of Ferroequinologists, Marietta Bob Hoenes, 770-422-0081; Jasper Roundhouse, Jasper, GA

Phil Stead, trainman07@aol.com; all scales, meets weekly at a member's home

Metro Atlanta N-Scalers, Atlanta, GA, Charles Leak, 404-262-2969

Model Railroad Club of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA

Terry Weldon, 770-979-0473; www.oscale-atlanta.info

North Atlanta O-Gauge Railroad Club, Roswell, GA, Jeff Pergl, 770-516-6378

North Atlanta Rail Barons, Howard Goodwin, 770-529-2103

North Georgia Lego Train Club, James Trobaugh, 770-844-1076

www.ngltc.org OR questions@ngltc.org

North Georgia Modurail, Jon Cook, 770-993-9620

NWGA T-TRAK Club Kennesaw GA

Jim Nealand, 678-358-9171; casadiego86@gmail.com

Railroad Model Club of Atlanta, Bob Peppel, 770-934-4067

Southern O Scalers, Dan Mason, 470-385-6638; daniel@masonlawfirmga.com Tri-State Area Model Railroad, Inc.

Thomas Roskelly, 828-361-2210; thomasroskelly@gmail.com

Volunteer Garden RR Club,

Vines Botanical Gardens, 3500 Oak Grove Rd, Loganville, GA 30052

Plateau - Division 16

Crossville Model RR Club, Crossville, TN; Tom Shallcross, 931-484-7565 chipmonk4@comcast.net; www.crossvilletrains.org

Smoky Mountain - Division 12

Knoxville Area Model Railroaders, Oak Ridge, TN

Brad Tutt, 865-776-4703; meetings are 1st & 3rd Sundays

Mountain Empire Modular Railroaders, Johnson City, TN, East TN State Univ. George Carter Museum, Dr. Fred Alsop, 423-929-3733; www.memrr.org

Maryville MRRC, Alnwick Community Club

2146 Big Springs Rd., Maryville TN 37803

Don Clark, 503-730-4869; meets first Saturday each month, 10 a.m. to noon

Steel City - Division 2

Black Warrior Model RR Society, Tuscaloosa, AL, Bob Way, 205-556-3073 Smokey City Model Rails, Birmingham, AL; www.smokeycityrails.com Wrecking Crew Model RR Club, Birmingham, AL; Whit Francher; 205-746-0007 Steel City Shifters Operating Group, jstew@bhamrails.info

The SouthErneR

Southeastern Region, NMRA 782 Jays Way Ringgold GA 30736-8954

