



The Official Publication of the Southeastern Region
of the National Model Railroad Association



The **SOUTHERNER**



Volume 61 Number 1

www.ser-nmra.org

Winter 2019

**Russ Bundy's G Scale
Southern Crossing
Scratchbuilt Trestle
Piedmont Pilgrimage 2019**



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Official Publication of the Southeastern Region, NMRA



The **SOUTHERNER**



Volume 61 Number 1



Winter 2019

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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 printed 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: Winter Nov 15; Spring Feb 15; Summer May 15; Fall Aug 15

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Size	Number of Issues			
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1/15 '5x3'	—	—	—	\$ 35
Pike '7x3'	—	—	—	\$ 16
Pike Registry : \$16 for 4 issues				

The President's Car Larry Burkholder



Summer is over and cold weather has settled in so indoor activities will pick up. The holidays will cut into train time some, but if Santa is good to you and brought you lots of model railroad goodies, you should be fired up and ready to get back to the hobby with gusto.

November was national model railroad month and many divisions had public events to commemorate it. Most notable is the Piedmont Division's annual layout tour. All of our divisions should try to promote the hobby anytime they can, but November would seem a great time to do it. If you don't have any good ideas read what divisions report in our *SouthErneR* or what is reported in the monthly NMRA magazine. You've got almost a year to get organized.

Registration is open for our 2020 annual convention in Cartersville, GA. It is not too early to do so. The choice hotel rooms will sell out fast. The Piedmont Division always puts on a great show and this one will be no exception. Go to our SER web page to start (www.ser-nmra.org).

The Palmetto Division has stepped up to sponsor the 2021 annual convention. However, for a while it looked doubtful if we would have anyone to do it. It is a lot of responsibility and many divisions don't have the manpower organized to handle such an undertaking.

I plan to put together a committee of experienced members that can offer assistance to smaller or widely dispersed divisions to plan and develop a convention. We all love Atlanta and Birmingham, but there are a lot of other interesting places to hold a convention in our region and we can't expect the same three or four divisions to take on the burden all the time.

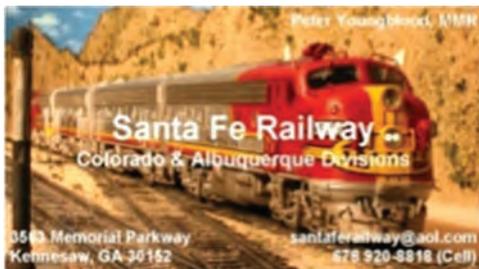
2020 SER CONVENTION

Cartersville, GA

June 19-20, 2020

CORRECTION to Fall 2019 Issue

On page 13, Achievement Program, Douglas J. Hughes is a member of the Smokey Mountain Division 12 not Division 16.



Engineer's Wish List

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WANTED

TO: All SER Members
All Division Superintendents
FROM: The Editor

There are many of you who have layouts that can be shared with all of us. You've spent hours building and operating your dream railroad.

Why not share you layout with all, no matter if it is large or small.

There are clubs in each division which do interesting promotions, services and have learning sessions.

We want to let all SER members know what has worked and what has, well let's say, didn't live up to expectations.

By sharing this information, we can all learn.

Encourage your clubs to take a few minutes and submit this information along with any photos to: SouthErneR@ejpj.com.

DEADLINES

February 15 - Spring

May 15 - Summer

August 15 - Fall

November 15 - Winter

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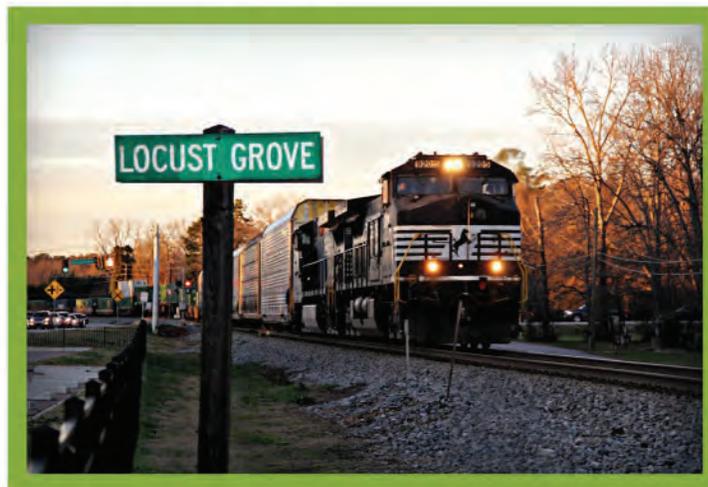
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the National and Regional NMRA



SOUTHEASTERN REGION

of the National Model
Railroad Association

The Business of Railroading

by Tom Schultz
Steel City Division 2

Business news has been relatively light in recent months.

Precision Scheduled Railroading

An article in the Wall Street Journal describes how CSX and the Union Pacific are running faster railroads with longer trains and operating more efficiently as a result. They are working diligently to regain more shippers that remain skeptical after years of subpar railroad performance.

Both companies are implementing precision scheduled railroading that focuses on keeping railcars moving and running trains on tighter schedules. But both are at different stages of implementation. CSX began its transformation almost two years ago. CSX is trying to shift more of their cargo shipments to rail from truck by showing that its shipping times have become more reliable.

The company has had some success persuading some shippers to make the shift. Others are reluctant to switch to rail service, even though it costs about 15% less to do so.

Union Pacific has reduced dwell time at terminals and cars arrive on time more often. It began implementing changes last year after struggling to improve service. The changes have not done enough to offset broader economic issues that have reduced shipping volume, including declines in coal shipments. The railroad is also contending with truck rates that have fallen dramatically because of too much capacity.

The U.P. has implemented new technology that gives shippers notifications when the railcars arrive. It has also introduced services where intermodal trains, which carry goods in containers from ports to trucks, are combined with other types of commodities.

Railroads could use additional volume, which is down 4.1% through mid-October from a year ago in the U.S., in part because of the softening economy and worries over international trade.

CSX's revenues have declined 5% and U.P. 7% from January through October. CSX cut its operating expenses by 8% in the third quarter of 2019 while the U.P. achieved a 10% reduction by cutting its labor force by 13% last year.

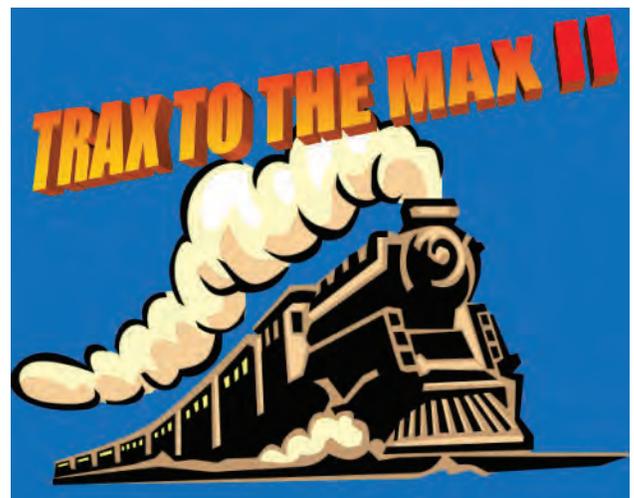
Life in The Powder River Basin

Coal production is declining in Wyoming's Powder River Basin. This has been noticed in London, where the *Economist* published a significant article on the subject as follows. Six Wyoming coal operators have declared bankruptcy since 2015.

Some are consolidating, others have restructured and re-opened. America consumes 40% less coal than at its peak in 2005. Just over half the nation's electricity, today it accounts for a little more than a quarter. Many investors are abandoning coal. The overall trend is downward.

Employment has been hit hard. Almost a century ago 860,000 coal miners worked in America. By January 2019, the number was 53,000. Roughly 17,000 are in Wyoming with an average wage of \$90,000 a year. Utilities are choosing cheaper and cleaner natural gas, solar or wind power and not using coal to power utility plants.

The effects on the railroads are obvious and are contributing to the revenue declines noted above.



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Education Department

Owen Maddux

Cherokee Division 13

How do we get educated is a rhetorical question in that even if one is in their mid-seventies or older there are opportunities to learn something new or even an old dog or a young dog can learn something new.

Idea I experienced recently was by going to the SWOOPS (South West Ohio OperationS) in and around Cincinnati, Ohio on October 18, 19 & 20 of 2019. SWOOPS is held every other year as are other operating weekend in Atlanta, St. Louis and other areas of our country. Four members of the Cherokee Division decided to go in one car and thus we asked the scheduler to allow us to attend the same operating sessions at the same time on the same date which was arranged.

Our first session on Friday night was on the Chesapeake & Ohio Northern Sub created by John Smith in Germantown Ohio which is a HO coal hauling layout that offered long runs with C & O Steam and Diesel. Saturday morning found us in Wilmington, Ohio at the Denver Pacific Railroad.

This layout is a UP HO with a fantastic steam and diesel yard with long runs through lots of farm land. Jim Rollwage has a large basement and his layout is a double dogbone with great scenery and very wide aisles. A great asset if one has the room is to have wide aisles. We were 2 operators short so Jim eliminated the Union Station Master and we ran no passenger trains. The point here is to be flexible.

Our second session on Saturday was on the East Broad Top Railroad owned by Ron Pearson in Cincinnati. The East Broad Top is a two tiered Hon3 mining layout from around 1905 where one family owned 6 anthracite coal mines and the railroad, 36 miles long, that interchanged with the Pennsy.

This layout is accurate to almost the last building or siding. The biggest problem I had was at a certain turnout my small steam engine would have its front two wheels derail and my fat fingers had a hard time getting the engine rerailed. The scenery on this layout was the best that I have ever seen for coal mines.

The fourth layout on Sunday morning was the Port Arthur Railway & navigation Co. developed by Jim Stewart in Cincinnati. This layout is an early 20th century short line inspired by the Pacific Railway & Navigation Co. in the Oregon Coast Range. Traffic included general freight, passenger service to and from a fish cannery and a logging branch. Power was steam with some shays. I got to operate the logging branch and I have become a fan of Shay and Heisler HO steam engines. I intend to add a logging branch soon to my layout and get a Heisler engine and some logging flats.

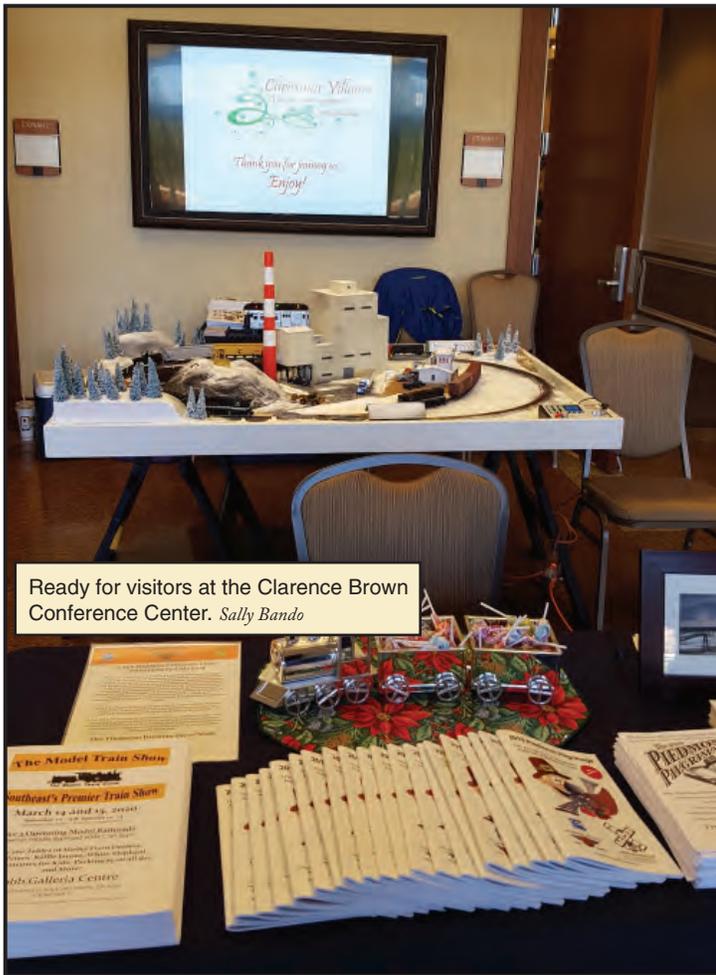
By going for a weekend to a new place, one can meet great model railroad people and have a great time enjoying our hobby on fantastic layouts. I encourage all to take a trip and see and learn about different layouts.

Christmas Village Gift Show

by Sally Bando

With June approaching fast, it made sense to start letting the area around Cartersville, GA know that there is a SER Convention coming and also the Piedmont Division Train show in June.

We set up our booth compliments of the Clarence Brown Convention Center. They held a Christmas Village Event Gift Show, November 1-2.



Ready for visitors at the Clarence Brown Conference Center. *Sally Bando*

Piedmont Division was there with a layout designed just for this event by Walt Liles and his crew. The layout is 4 by 6 and had a snow theme. Even had Santa on one of the snow covered hills.

The event was an excellent way to introduce model trains to the area! We used the banner from the SER at this event.

We had many visitors who are very excited that there will be a SER Convention and model train event in the area. We will visit the Clarence Brown Center



Eager children watching the model train. *Sally Bando*



Santa and Sleigh on hillside. *Sally Bando*



Walt giving a future member of the NMRA some pointers on Model Trains. *Sally Bando*



Sally Bando asking for more Model Trains!. *Santa's Elf*

again March 28th for another local event to continue getting the word out about our SER Convention and also the Piedmont Division Train Show.

Here's a big Thank You out to the Karon Mauney and staff of the Clarence Brown Convention Center for getting the Piedmont Division invited to this event. We had a great time!

Silica Open Loads

by Ed Neale
Carolina Mountain Division 15

Inspired by reading recent **NMRA Magazine** articles on the subject of open loads, I proceeded to take the camera out to make a few pictures of my recently completed open load project.

Silica gel containers from pill bottles have been accumulating for several years waiting for a use. I now had that use. I would make a removable open load for my 50' Athearn gondola.

I found some 0.020 Evergreen styrene in my supplies, bonded two gondola size pieces together to make a heavier 0.040 base for the load. Twenty containers were painted and then glued onto the styrene base. The base was blackened with a broad black marker to blend the base into the gondola.

And there it was, a new load for my Rutland Railroad gon. This load will be used on the monthly OPS day at my Apple Valley Model Railroad club here in Western North Carolina.

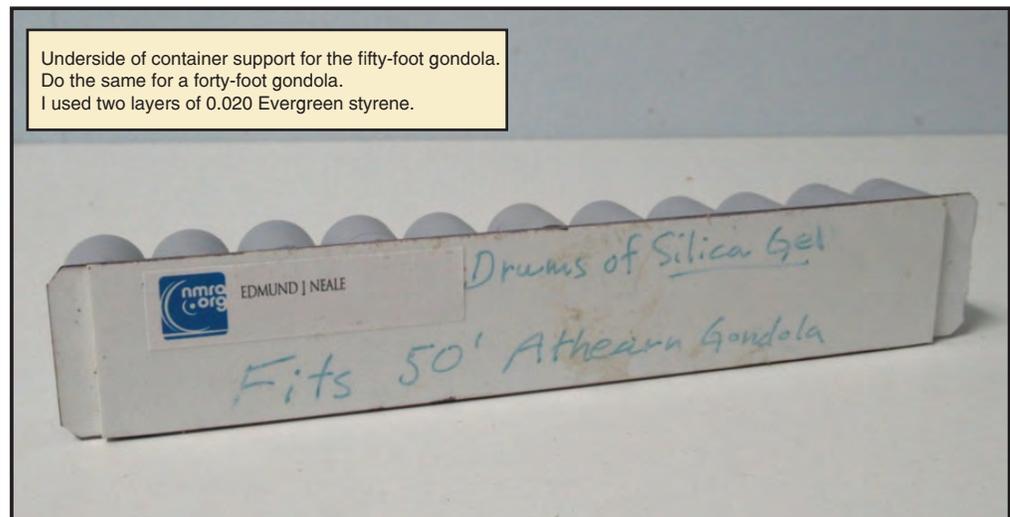
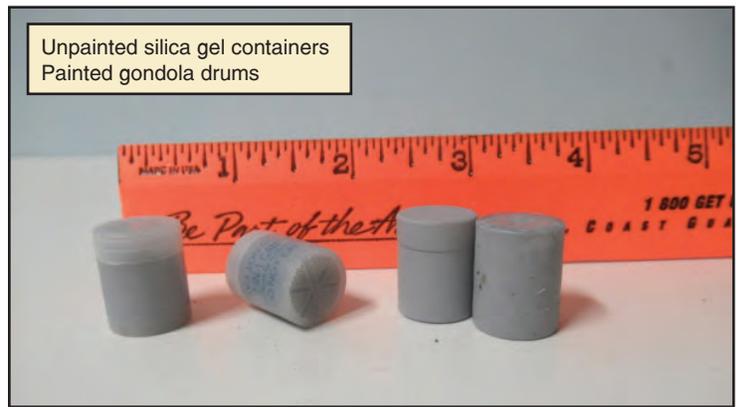
About the Author and more construction details

Ed is a member of Hendersonville's [SC] Apple Valley Model Railroad Club with least half of the members in the Carolina Mountain Division.

"I operate on the club's once a month OP session where I specialize on the Carolina & North Western short line which terminates at the private right of way of the W.M. Ritter Lumber Company.

"I have built a few structures and fixed up several cars for the club. The removable drum load for the fifty-foot gondolas was built to give the OP session set-up guys more material to work with. I see that load of large drums as either an overhead cargo or to be used in the paper mill located at Canton, NC.

"For several years I have been keeping the silica gel containers that came with some of my pills. I always hoped that they would come in handy. The base is necessary so that the load can easily be either inserted into the gondola or removed for the next OP session. The base was painted black to match the bottom color of the gon. I used a medium grey color for the containers. Decals might be added to them at a later date."



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2020 SER CONVENTION

June 19-20, 2020
Cartersville, GA

TRAX TO THE MAX II



The **PIEDMONT DIVISION** invites you to save the date for the **2020 Southeastern Region Convention!**

PIEDMONT DIVISION



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- Brian Marsh
- David Popp
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- Ted Yarbrough's G-scale
Denver & Rio Grande Western
- Alan Keller's HO Bluff City
Southern
- Dave Houseman's HO Chicago
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SERTraxToTheMax2020.COM

Achievement Program

New Awards in our Southeastern Region this Quarter

Piedmont - Division 5



**Russell Bundy
Golden Spike Award**



**Justin Jankauskas
Golden Spike Award**



Plateau - Division 16

**Roberta M. Dean
Golden Spike Award**



**Thomas Shallcross
Model Railroad
Electrical Certificate**



**Paul Falk
Association
Volunteer Certificate**

Division AP Chairmen for Divisions which have them

Steel City - Division 2

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

Piedmont - Division 5

Randall Watson; randallwatson1@bellsouth.net; 770-831-5736

Empire - Division 6

Mike Braunstein, MMR; x996tt2002@outlook.com; 931-200-6758

Palmetto Division 7

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

Bluff City - Division 10

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

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Smokey Mountain - Division 12

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

Cherokee - Division 13

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

Carolina Mountain - Division 15

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

Plateau - Division 16

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



NMRA National Convention

St. Louis, Missouri

www.gateway2020.org

July 12 through 18



The following is from the NMRA website and worth repeating.

In simple terms, the Achievement Program (AP) is a travel guide, to help you on your journey through the world of model railroading. The AP also provides incentive to learn and master the many crafts and skills necessary in the hobby of model railroading. With the completion of each category, you will be issued a certificate acknowledging your achievement.

The AP requirements are a set of standards, but they can also serve as a set of guideposts for those who are new, near-new, and not-so-new to the hobby. Not because they lead to some sort of official pat-on-the-back, but because they are a source of ideas for projects that can help us learn to become better modelers.

Briefly, the AP is a system of requirements for demonstrating a superior level of skill in various aspects of our hobby. It covers not only building various types of models, but also building other things which are important to the hobby, such as scenery, structures, track work, and wiring. It also recognizes service to the hobby and the NMRA, which are important as well.

Master Model Railroader (MMR)

An NMRA member qualifies as an MMR when one has obtained at least seven of the eleven Achievement Certificates provided that one has earned at least one Certificate in each of the four areas of the Regulations. Earning the title of MMR is the ultimate goal for many participants in the Achievement Program.

The 11 Achievement Program Awards by the 4 Categories are:

- 1. Model Railroad Equipment**
Master Builder Motive Power
Master Builder Cars
- 2. Settings**
Master Builder Scenery
Master Builder Structures
Master Builder Prototype Models
- 3. Engineering and Operation**
Model Railroad Engineer—Civil
Model Railroad Engineer—Electrical
Chief Dispatcher
- 4. Service to the Hobby**
Association Official
Association Volunteer
Model Railroad Author

To qualify for the Master Model Railroader status, you must earn 7 of the above awards with the stipulation that at least one award must be earned in each of the 4 categories.

Some people may be reluctant to participate in the AP, because the rules seem difficult to understand. The website pages explain each of the different categories in the AP and the requirements.

Golden Spike Award

If you are new to the AP, may we recommend that you take a look at the Golden Spike Award, although not an actual AP category its requirements are structured along the same lines. Further Information is available at www.nmra.org.

Convention Layout Previews

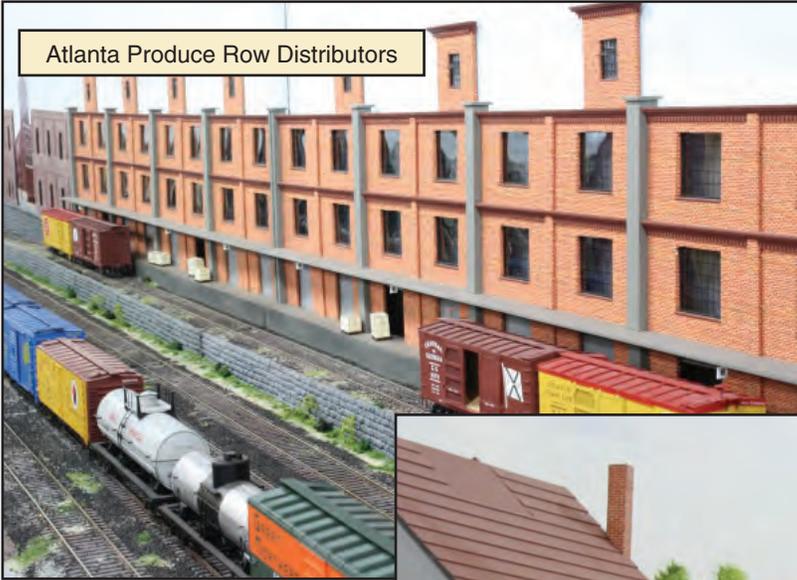
Dan Mansfield
Georgia Railroad

Dan's layout is two rail O Scale, the Georgia Railroad Camak Division, circa 1952. It is DCC operated with sound decoders in all locomotives, both steam and diesel.

Operation is controlled by a car card system and telephones, accommodating up to 12 operators (six two-man crews).

Vital statistics are approximately 900 feet of flex track, 88 turnouts with 76 Tortoise machines, 110 freight cars, three steam locos and nine diesels.

Atlanta Produce Row Distributors



Switcher working Washington Cotton Warehouse



Camak Switcher working Quarry



Atlanta Roundhouse





WB Train No. 41 at West Camak



Train No. 51 switching Athens Cotton Mill

SER Convention Shirts

There is a white ladies Polo \$30.00 – 100% polyester, moisture wicking, UV protection, sizes XS-3XL, embroidered logo

There is a white men's Pocket Polo \$30.00 to \$33.00 – 100% polyester, moisture wicking, UV protection, sizes S-XL and 2XL-4XL, embroidered logo

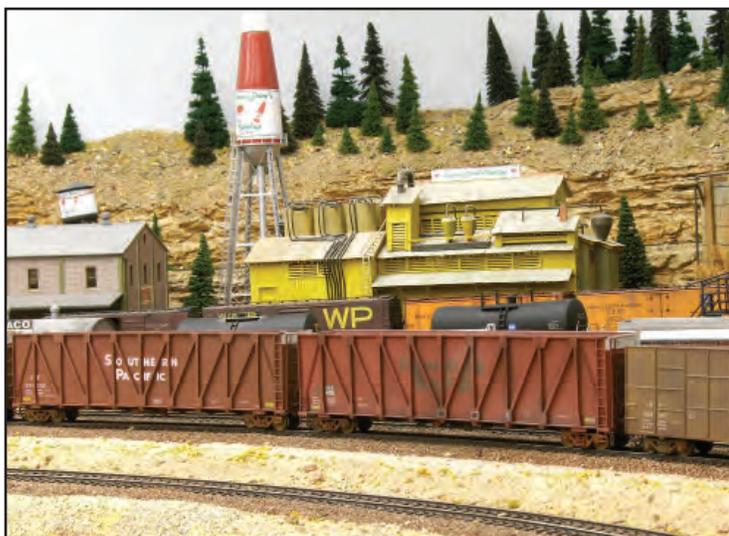
There is a True Royal Blue Pocket \$25.00 – 100% Cotton, large logo on back, small logo above pocket on front, sizes S-3XL, digital printed

All of these shirts have the option of having your first name embroidered on them. Add \$5.00 and be sure to include spelling of desired name on shirt, include your email for easy reference please.

Check the convention web site for ordering details and payment information.



Convention
Layout Previews
Dave Houseman
Chicago Denver & Pacific
HO Scale Railroad



2020 SER CONVENTION
Cartersville, GA
June 19-20, 2020



The PIEDMONT Division invites you to save the date for the 2020 Southeastern Region Convention!

- ◆ **Clarence Brown Conference Center**
- ◆ **Hampton Inn—Cartersville**
- ◆ **Prototype Tours**
- ◆ **Layout Tours**
- ◆ **Train show**
- ◆ **Clinics and much, much more!**

SERTRAXTOHEMAX2020.COM

Convention Layout Previews

**Jim Dorsett's
Cumberland & Appalachian Railroad**



This is an O Scale layout on three rail track of the N&W, Southern and L&N Railroads.

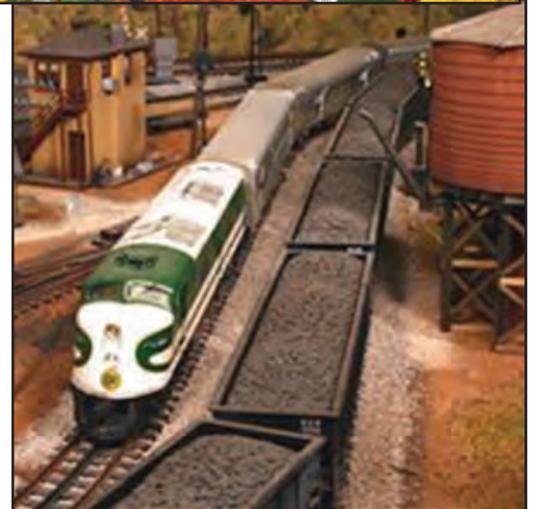
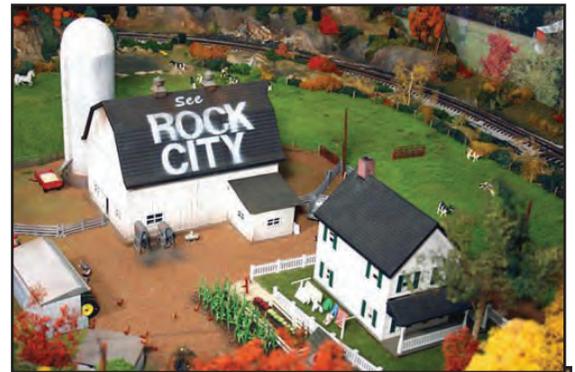
It covers the coal mining districts of SW Virginia, NE Tennessee, SW Kentucky and Southern West Virginia.

The towns of Bristol, TN, Bristol, VA and the fictional town of Mt. Clemens are depicted.

Many structures are scratch built including the Brompton Coal Company Tipple, while others are from kits or are kit bashed.

The Scenery is Hydrocal Hard shell, with most of the trees handmade with a panoramic backdrop of typical terrain of the area in the fall. Realism is the goal so everything is prototypical, weathered, and spread out as much as possible.

Photos: Peter Youngblood



2020 SER ELECTIONS CALL FOR CANDIDATES!

Elections for SER Board members are coming up soon!

Are you interested in serving your region and earning AP Official credits?

To be eligible you must be a current NMRA member
(excluding Family or RailPass memberships) in good standing.

SER positions to be elected in 2020 are:

- **SER Vice President**
- **SER Secretary**
- **Two (2) SER Directors**

All serve 2 year terms and, if reelected, can serve an additional 2 years consecutively.

Candidates must submit 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, 2020** to:

Peter Youngblood, MMR
Nominating Committee Chairman
santaferailway@aol.com



MID-SOUTH



Division 1 - Mid-South Jim Norris - jnorris2@charter.net

Welcome! The Mid-South Division is located in the Northern tier of Alabama counties between Mississippi and Georgia with the Southeastern corner dipping down to Gadsden, AL and the Northern border extending up to Fayetteville, TN.

There are approximately 45 members spread throughout the Division with most of the members living in the Huntsville/Decatur area. Our website is www.midsouthnmra.org.

The division meets the first Saturday of each month at the Decatur Union Depot, 701 Railroad St, Decatur, AL. The meetings begin at 9:30 AM. We usually have a short business meeting followed by a clinic of general interest to the membership and an operating session on the Decatur Union Depot layout.

We have just completed our elections and the officers who will be leading us in 2020 are:

- Superintendent: Jim Norris
- Assistant Superintendent: David Carlton
- Secretary: Andy Smith
- Treasurer: Dieter Grethmann
- Director 1: Bill Eberle
- Director 2: Steve Moeller
- Director 3: Ken Mattern

We are formulating our plans for clinics in the coming year and expect our emphasis will be on skills to increase Achievement Program participation, 3D printing and laser cutting.



On November 16, the Division hosted a Golden Spike ceremony for the outdoor G-Scale layout on the passenger platform adjacent to the observation deck (*photo left*).

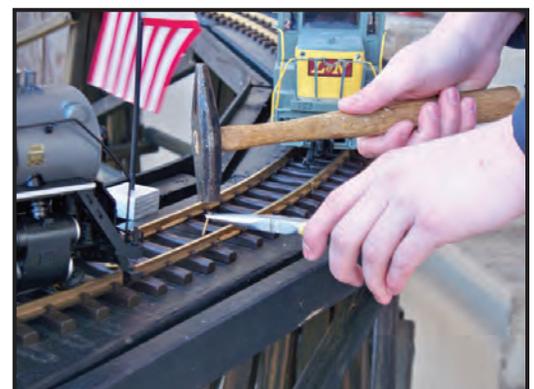
Our holiday children's hands on layout is up and running and we look forward to the cheers and the laughing of young voices well into the New Year.



An aspiring Eagle Scout, Zach Pierce and his family along with a Mid-South crew (*photo right*) constructed the layout over the past three months. Zach was responsible for the planning, supervision and construction of the bents for the trestle. The family and Mid-South crew pitched in to assemble the extensive trestle.

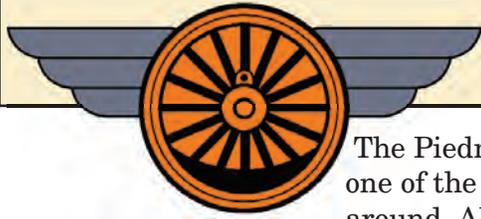


Two golden spikes were driven, the first by Zach and the second by his mother, Sadie. She made every work session working as hard as anyone.



Sessions were held in 90 degree heat, fall fell, and the ceremony was in 45 degree cold.

Division 5 - Piedmont
Walt Liles - wiles.crrman@gmail.com



The Piedmont Division is one of the larger divisions around. Along with that means the division must maintain a high standard to be the best. We strive very hard to offer members quality classes, clinics, layouts and events that members can enjoy. It also means that we offer something that future members hopefully will want to be part of.

Times have changed for people and sometimes they feel maybe they should not join an organization. I ask folks where can you meet so many skilled modelers and see so many different trains through one organization in the metro area?

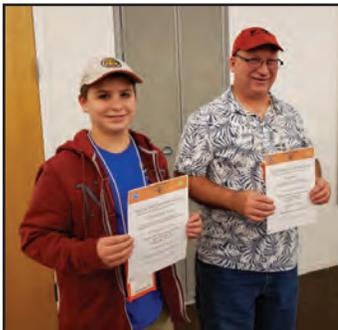


Brain Campbell and Ken Williams counselors for scout merit badge course.

Sally Bando, Thomas Lloyd, Rick Coble scout counselors at the SERM in Duluth.

We are volunteers that really devote lots of time and energy to provide a fun organization for our members and guest. It's a fantastic hobby and model railroading has so much to offer as a relaxation activity. Whether you are a teenager, retired or a busy working person, we all just want to have something to take our minds off the day in and day out things of life. Jump in and join in, volunteer, host a layout open house, offer to teach, bring items to share at Bring and Brag, attend a convention or start a small group of folks maybe that live near you.

Just START!!



Christopher and Jim Davis presented participation certificates for volunteering.



James Bando presented participation certificate for volunteering.

Try your technique at weathering, build a layout, scratch build a model, install LED's into a loco or building or learn how to make a river or lake. You won't regret it. Sit back with a train magazine and dream. Life is short and just have fun in Model Railroading and the NMRA.



Alan Mole presented with certificate from Charlie Mason.

Your Piedmont Division has a great team of leadership and volunteers. I say thank you to all of you. All these cool things cannot happen without your devoted time and energy.

We had our monthly meeting on September 10 with Steve Austin as our clinician. He spoke about

Making Scenery From Natural Materials. Steve is a superb modeler so with this clinic I really hope that members and guest walked away with great ideas that they can try on their railroads or groups. Thank you, Steve, for a great presentation.

September 14, Howard Goodwin MMR and his team of Scout Counselors hosted a Boy Scout Railroad-ing Merit Badge class at the Southeastern Railroad Museum in Duluth. He had a full class with over 30 scouts signed up. This is a huge outreach to the scouting program. Thanks to the long day our counselors commit to making this happen.

September 28, Perry Lamb organized **TRAIN N CAMP - *Maintaining Your Railroad Car Fleet.***

The class was full of 10 members participating. It was a hands-on class with everyone using the tools and techniques to make cars meet NMRA standards. Maintaining your cars can eliminate derailments and problems on any railroad.

Thanks to Perry Lamb, Howard Goodwin MMR and Walt Liles for being instructors that day.

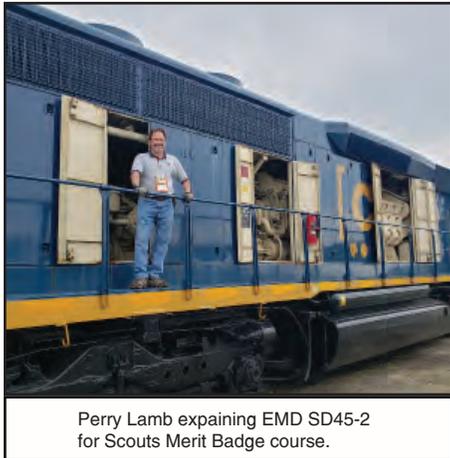
October 8, we had our regular monthly meeting. We average about 100 people a meeting. Steve Bartelski presented a clinic on ***Using Cloud Computing for Model Railroaders.***

Thank you, Steve, for a fine clinic.

October is the month we hold the ***Fall Model and Photo Clinic.*** Thank you to Charlie Mason and

Jim Datka for organizing each area for the contest. We had some fine models that were brought and in a huge variety of photo entries. Thanks to all who brought items in.

In October we kicked off the 17th Annual Piedmont Pilgrimage with over 70 railroads to visit. Sadly, our dear friend and Piedmont Pilgrimage Chairman Gary Jarabek passed away. Gary was one of our very devoted members and the Pilgrimage was one of his very passionate projects that he handled every year. He had a huge impact to our hobby and will be very missed. Many thanks to his team who picked up the Pilgrimage and ran with it to the finish.



Perry Lamb explaining EMD SD45-2 for Scouts Merit Badge course.

The Piedmont Pilgrimage started on October 12 through November 29. We had thousands of visitors. Many thanks to our host members and the volunteers who helped operate railroads. It was a very successful year. This is still the Piedmont Division

largest outreach project. Thanks to all our advertisers and supporters who make this happen each year. **THANK YOU.**

November 12 was our regular monthly meeting with a very large turnout. We also held our annual election for directors and officers. Congratulations to the following on their new positions starting January 1, 2020.

- Royal Bruce-Director of Finance
- Sally Bando-Director of Operations
- Jim Travis-Director
- Steve Funsten-Director
- Doug Alexander-Director
- Bob Kelshaw-Director

Thank You to all that ran and looking forward having you back or in a new position.



Fall model and photo contests.



Our contest results were presented to all contest winners from the Fall Model Contests.

Charlie Crawford MMR presented a clinic on *The Case for Modular Railroading*. Thank you, Charlie, for a fantastic clinic.

We will be holding our annual Holiday Party on December 10. Should be a lot of fun for all and we also collect toys for *Toys for Tots*. Diana Watson is organizing the food and getting the room ready for a delightful evening.

Please remember to start registering for TRAX TO THE MAX II SER CONVENTION 2020.

From the PIEDMONT DIVISION leadership team

HAPPY HOLIDAYS.

Walt Liles
Superintendent

Birmingham Southern Model Railroad

Craig Gardner
President, CEO, CFO,
Engineer and Trackgang

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jcgard@bellsouth.net
www.bsmrr.com

George Bloodworth
President

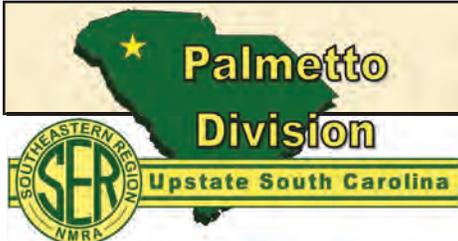
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Steve Funsten
404-312-6467
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425 Market Place Roswell GA 30075



Division 7 - Palmetto

Ken Majchzak - kemajchrzak@gmail.com

The Palmetto Division has had a busy fall season. September 21, the Division carpooled to the North Carolina Transportation Museum in Spencer, NC. We had division members from the Greenville and Columbia areas attending this event. We were treated to a guided tour of the back shop, took the 25 minute train ride around the facility and spent time talking to the Metrolina Model Railroad Club members who were displaying a 24' by 40' operating modular HO scale layout. A good time was had by all who attended.

On September 28, the Palmetto Division participated in the City of Greer Railfest. This is an annual event to showcase railroading to the residents of the area. Our Division brought all of our NMRA promotional material to show the hundreds of adults and children who attended what the NMRA is all about and the benefits of belonging to the Palmetto Division.

In addition, several NMRA members helped with the Piedmont 'N' Southern Modular T-TRAK layout that was an operating display. Also the Hub City Railroad Museum, which is maintained by NMRA members, had a display and the CRMHA (Central Railway Model and Historical Association) with its NMRA members had a display advertising both the association and its annual Train Show in Easley, SC.

The big event for the Palmetto Division was our 2019 annual fall Division meeting. It was attended by 39 members including members from the Carolina Mountain Division #15. Jack Varadi was honored for having his layout - the Greenville and Ohio - be the centerfold article in the December 2019 Model Railroad magazine. All the layout photos were taken by our member Bruce Gathman. Two clinics were held at the meeting. The first was given by Carl Brummer titled "G Scale on Steroids" which covered his 7/8 inch and larger creations all running on G scale 45mm track.

The second clinic was presented by Marv Havens on how to use structures of different scales to gain scenery perspective on model railroad layouts. BOD elections were also held with Kenneth Majchszak continuing as Superintendent, Bruce Gathman being elected as Assistant Superintendent, Geoff Duncan continuing as Treasurer and Steve Todd continuing as Secretary/Webmaster. Following lunch, we toured Scott Lister's "Greenville & Northern" S gauge short line model railroad and the Model Trains Station facility located in the Taylors' Mill, Taylors, SC. The

non-profit facility has seven different operating model layouts in a variety of scales ranging from N scale to G Gauge on display.

On November 22 and 23, the Greenville County Library System will be hosting at the Taylors Branch Library will presenting a model train display featuring the NMRA Palmetto Division promotional display, the Piedmont & Southern Model Railroad T-Track layout, a display from the Taylors Model Trains Station and a display from the CRMHA.

On November 23, Jack Varadi will be hosting a Palmetto Division mini clinic on an "Introduction to Model Railroad Operations."

On February 7 and 8, 2020 the CRMHA will be host their annual "Model Train Expo." This is a train show that any model railroader is sure not to want to miss.

On Saturday March 14, 2020 the Palmetto Division will be holding their Spring 2020 Division meeting in Greenville. Details to follow.

On Saturday April 25, 2020 the Palmetto Division will be holding a Division meeting in Columbia, South Carolina. This meeting is held expressly for all NMRA members in Central and Southern South Carolina. Details to follow.

From the 2021 SER Convention Co-Chairs

The Palmetto Division will be hosting the 2021 SER Convention in Greenville, SC on June 10 -13, 2021. We are in the process of finalizing the contract with the Hilton Hotel on Orchard Park Drive, which will be the Convention Hotel. Registration, clinics, competitions, raffles, company store and the banquet will all be at the Hotel. A logo for the convention has been designed and the theme for the convention will be "The Swamp Rabbit Express."

Our committee is hard at work organizing the clinics, home layout tours, op sessions and prototype tours. We may also have a surprise of two in the agenda. We will be holding the banquet on Saturday night, June 12 and our banquet speaker has already committed.

We are preparing our presentation for the 2020 Convention in Cartersville, GA. We look forward to seeing all of you at the 2021 SER Convention in Greenville. Stay tuned for more details as they are finalized.

*Myron Pensyl & Dave Winans
Co-Chairs, 2021 SER Convention*

Division 11 - Cumberland
Bob Hultman ~ hultman@bellsouth.net

Cumberland Division is continuing with its monthly meeting at various venues around Middle, TN.

Our October 12 meeting was at TC Railway Museum in Nashville. Eric Hansman gave a short presentation on building resin boxcar kits along with a barge cement demonstration. A PDF kit building primer can be downloaded from the Helpful Links page of the Resin Car Works blog. It's the first link on the menu www.blog.resincarworks.com/helpful-links.



Division members listen to Eric Hansmann describe his processes in building a resin freight car kit.

Unfortunately for me, I missed the meeting entirely even though I was upstairs copying material for the Fall 2019 Division Meet & Model Train Show that needed to be ready for Allen Hicks to take to

Gallatin High School that does the physical work of stuffing, address labeling, sealing and postage stamping the mailout (1,350 pieces) on Monday Oct 14.

Speaking of the Meet & Model Train Show, we had

about 175 or so people come through. The dealers did well, the Company Store sold a bunch of items, the Hobby Shop got a lot of the donated items. The hit of the day was TCRM's



Robert "Moose" Guzman and Horton Monroe watch as Mark Stone positions parts of an HO scale coke complex.

new-to-them ex-AMTK 8510 diner grill car (originally CBQ Silver Cafe' built by Budd in 1948 and rebuilt by AMTK late in its AMTK career).

Member Terry Bebout prepared jumbo hot dogs and delicious Beast Burgers for the hungry crowds.



David Lynam, MMR, talks about the HO scale tipple and mine complex he scratchbuilt.

Many thanks to all who worked to make this Meet & train Show a success.

On the business-legal side, the separation of TC Railway Museum and Cumberland Division SER-NMRA is almost complete, only thing now is waiting to receive completed documents from the relevant

state, local and federal government entities.



Dan Cole brought a few HO scale kitbashed critters to the October meeting. Dan started with a Bachmann 45-ton locomotive drive and chassis. That's Dan in the hat.

Members are encouraged to bring models to display and discuss. Each has a few minutes to talk about the models they brought and to answer questions.

ROBERT & BRIAN HUNT
MARIETTA, GA

Joe Nichols, Sr., MMR
 Chairman of the Board & CEO

Delta Southern Railroad

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 Dunwoody, GA 30338

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deltarrz@mindspring.com

BLUE RIDGE & SHENANDOAH VALLEY

Royal Bruce
 Superintendent

BR&SV

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 941-374-1011 • royalbruce@comcast.net



Division 12 - Smoky Mountain Allen Keller - allenkeller@charter.net

The Smoky Mountain Division serves all of East Tennessee from Knoxville to Bristol and has around 70 members.



The division is quite active with 6 events or get-togethers per year. One of our local clubs, the Knoxville Area Model Railroad Club, was fea-



people to the hobby. This included movies, how to do demonstrations and operating layouts. In addition, we had a table to recruit new members and free train magazines for the public. We had 35 of our members present to help with set up and to demonstrate hobby techniques. Around 125 people including youngsters

tured in the Nov-Dec issue of *N Scale Railroading*. One of its members and a division member too, Phil Brooks, took the Best in Show Mack Craig Trophy at this year's SER convention in Chattanooga.

Our September 5th meeting at the Bass Pro Shop was fun with Brooke Gunning giving an excellent clinic on Designing, Producing, and Marketing laser cut structure kits.

On November 16, in honor of model railroad month, the division held a public event to introduction

came through the display.

The division has a new secretary. Ken Johnson has accepted the job replacing long time modeler Doug Hughs.



Our next meeting is January 2 at the Bass Pro Shop exit 407 on I-40. The fun starts at 6 pm with dinner. Jim Grossen will have a clinic on Arduinos for track detection and LED lights.



The Southeastern Region of the NMRA is proud to announce the availability of a limited number of Accurail HO scale 47' ACFX 4650 cu. ft. covered hopper kits custom made for the SER and lettered for ENGELHARD.

The car, offered in one road number is injection molded plastic featuring plastic wheelsets, Accumate Couplers, Kadee compatible, and separate brake detail. Kit includes detailed step by step directions for quick assembly.

Orders of two or more cars include a free easy-to-install replacement Decal Set of TWELVE (12) different numbers plus END numbers. **This is a \$4.00 value -- FREE.**

Cars are **NOW AVAILABLE at \$19.95 each**, plus shipping of \$6.96 for one car. Add \$1.00 shipping for each additional car.

Check or money order payable to: **SER-NMRA**

Mail to: Region Car Project % Randall Watson
730 Morning Creek Ln
Suwanee GA 30024

Please support your Region and order one of more cars. For additional information contact Region Car Chairman Randall Watson at: randallwatson1@bellsouth.net.



Division 13 - Cherokee

Roy Masterson ~ rwmasterson@epbfi.com

The Cherokee Division will hold a Boy Scout Railroad Merit Badge Program on January 25, 2020. This will be the 3rd year that our division has hosted the scouts. The event will be held in the conference room of the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum, 4119 Cromwell Road, Chattanooga, TN 37421 from 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM. For more information contact Owen Maddux at owenmaddux@gmail.com.

Construction is proceeding on the Rathole Division being built by the Chattanooga Area Model Railroad Club in the basement of the main office of the TVRM at 4119 Cromwell Road. Trains will run through the HO scale Southern Railway Rathole Division during hours when the TVRM is open and will also have a Club Operations Mode for club events. The Track Planning Committee has the task of track installation and wiring.

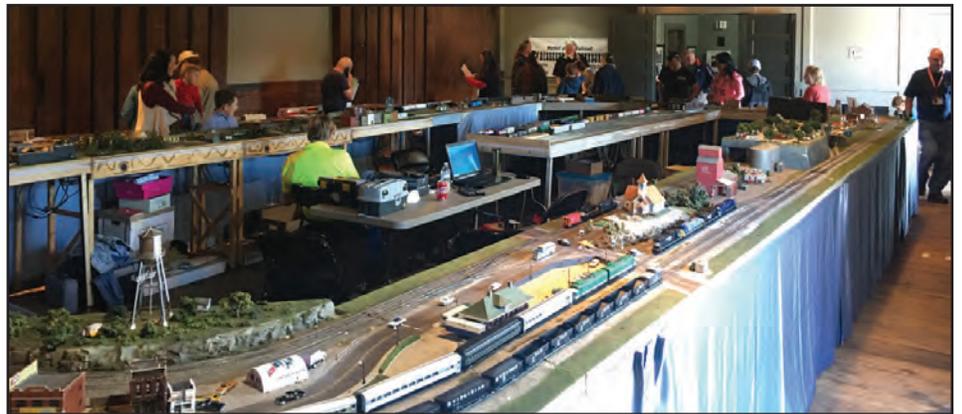
The OPS Committee is working to develop an operating scheme for the movement of trains. JMRI software will be used. The Scenery Committee will replicate the major scenic aspects of the Southern main line from Danville, Kentucky to Harriman, TN. If you'd like to join the CAMRC and work on a layout that will be seen by thousands of people in years to come, then visit their website at www.camrc.org for more information. A track plan of the Rathole Division is on their website.

The Chattanooga Modular Modeler's participated in the Summerville Railroad Days on November 9 & 10 (Saturday & Sunday) in Summerville, Georgia. CMM ran trains on their modular layout in the Summerville Depot during the festival.

Twenty members helped with the setup and operations which saw over 1,000 visitors during the two-day event. The TVRM ran steam excursions both days from Chattanooga. On Sunday, TVRM ran a double-header to Summerville featuring the 4501 and 630 steam engines. The CMM



will be holding their annual Christmas Social on Saturday, December 14 from 2:00 until 6:00 PM at the home of Ed Painter in Cohutta, GA. If you'd like to join the CMM please visit their website at www.chattmodmod.org for more Information.



Rathole Cumberland River Bridge will be modeled at this location, spanning almost 6 feet.



Division 14 - Magnolia
Pat McCarthy - maccars@gmx.com

The first annual Mississippi Railfest was held in Gulfport the weekend of November 9-10 at the Mississippi Coast Model Railroad Museum (www.mcmrem.org). This two-day event drew over 300 paid attendees to visit twenty vendors and seven visiting layout displays as well as permanent displays from the Museum.

The Magnolia Division



had a table, and we visited with a good number of interested attendees and handed out over 20 membership applications. Looking forward to next year's event!



including the large facility in which Railfest was held.

There are multiple displays, in all different scales, as well as displays of vintage models, and larger



scale trains which offer rides to museum visitors. The backbone of the organization is the Train Club, itself which has over 30 members – several of whom are NMRA members. It is well worth a trip to the Gulfport/Biloxi area to see this facility.

The Mississippi Coast Model Railroad Museum is a great model railroad resource on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and for the New Orleans and Mobile areas. The museum itself is comprised of several buildings,



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Division 15 - Carolina Mountain

Bill Raymond - trainman@morrisbb.net

It has been a busy time for many of our division members these past few months and looks to

continue for the next few months.

During the May to September time frame, some of our members volunteered to help operate the two G-Scale train layouts on exhibit at the Biltmore estate. The Autumn Rails Train Show occurred on October 4 and 5 where we displayed and staffed our division booth. In addition, many of our members attended the show.

Just 2 weeks later we had our quarterly division meeting on October 19 at the Deerfield Community Center. We had another good turnout with a number of models displayed for our show and tell portion of the layout. Our clinic was presented by Ben Bartlett, MMR, explaining the requirements and how to achieve them to earn a Golden Spike Certificate. Photos, pictures and other information are posted on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/groups/CarolinaMountainDiv.

At our January division meeting each year, we voted for two board of director positions. Our officers/directors are elected on staggered terms and this year the positions of

Superintendent and Paymaster were up for election. We will publish the results of the voting in the Spring 2020 issue of the SouthErneR.

We have two train shows coming up in the near future which many of our members always look forward to attending. The first is the 2020 Model Train Expo on February 7 – 8 in Easley, SC (www.cmrha.org). The next one is the Asheville Model Train Show, February 28 – 29, in Fletcher, NC (www.wncmrr.org).

Further down the road for many of our division members is the SER Regional Convention, Trax to the Max II, June 19 – 20, in Cartersville, GA (www.ser-nmra.org/convention/2020-ser-convention-trax-max-ii) and of course the NMRA National Convention, July 12 – 18, 2020 in St. Louis, MO. (www.gateway2020.org).

As if all that is not enough, we are looking forward to the winter months so we can spend much more time working and operating on our model railroads.

Our next division meeting will be on Saturday, January, 18, 2020 starting at 9:30 am. We will meet at our usual location, the Deerfield Community Center at 1617 Hendersonville Rd., Asheville, NC. If you are in the area, please join us.



Division 16 - Plateau

Tom Shallcross ~ chipmonk4@comcast.net

The Christmas committee has reserved the event room at the mall and arranged for Forte's to again provide the meal.

Where did 2019 go? It seems the older we get, the faster the calendar moves and the slower we and our memory works. I forgot the point I was trying to make! Never mind!

2020 will bring some exciting changes to our layouts. Hoping that "O" scale, under the leadership of Ken, and the continuing efforts of all the members involved, the completion of the rebuild will be within sight.

Jan is doing a great job on "N" scale and, while he is on vacation, members have stepped up to help maintain their layout's continued successful dependability operation. Paul and his "HO" work crew have made a great deal of progress with the new yard on finger four. Installing lights in buildings continues to expand and, of course, the 'blue' night effects will really enhance the displays when all are installed and programmed.

"G" scale under Ann's tender loving care, with help

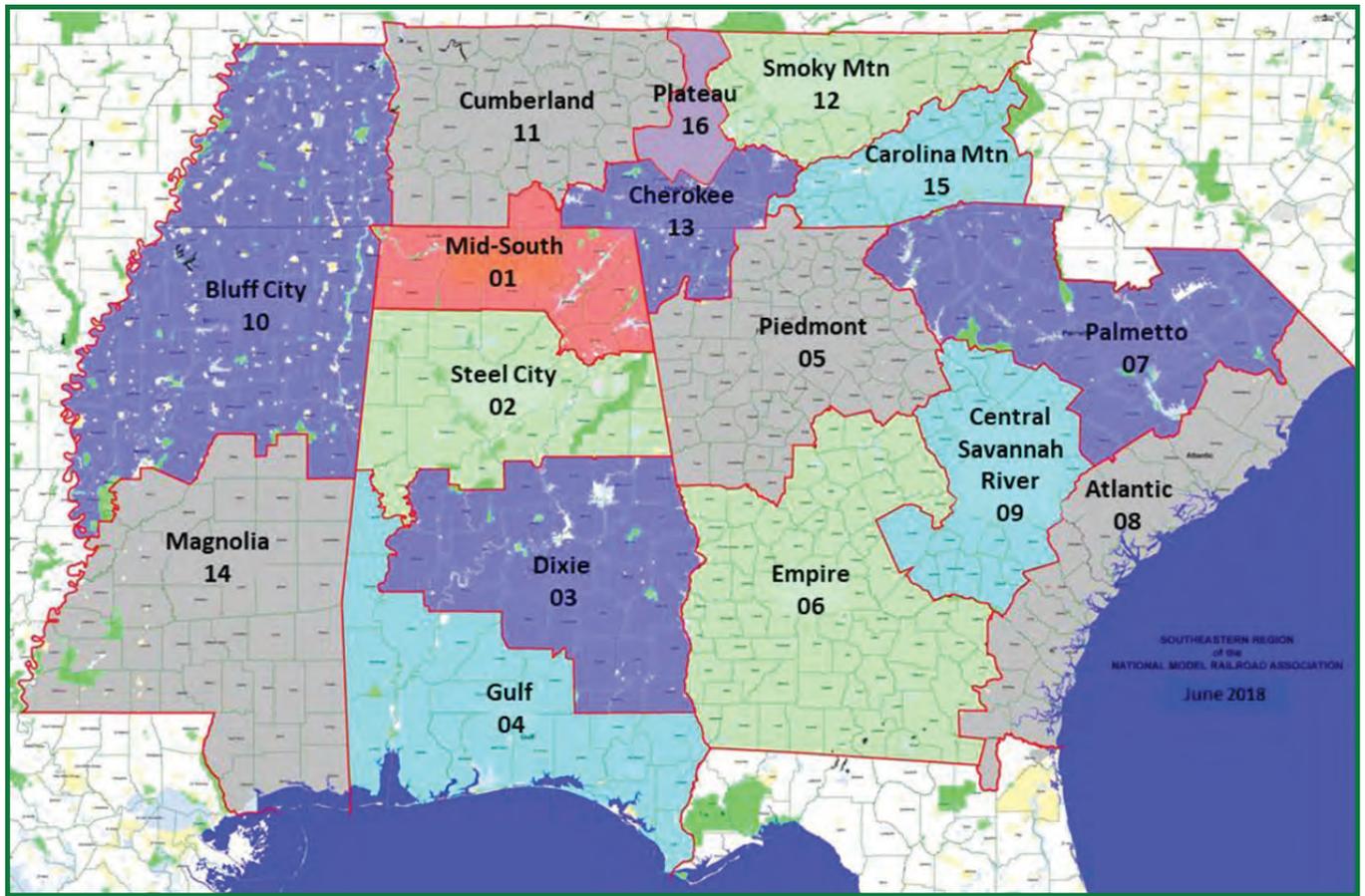
from Jim and Ted, have worked hard to make sure the scale continues to be the one button start up and shut down we all have come to be thankful for.

"Z" scale continues to present a challenge to keep it running. It would be great, with minimal effort, for someone to step up and be the coordinator. This would, most likely, eliminate many of the constant problems which plague it. An easier coordinator's job could never be easier.

2020 is, of course, the year we need to prepare for our twentieth anniversary in 2021. Our Marketing Team, public relations and historian have a sizeable challenge ahead of them. Having a couple more volunteers would be a major assistance in the year-long celebration.

Here is wishing all our members, their immediate and extended families, a very Merry Christmas and the Happiest of Holidays with a prayer that all those traveling reach their destinations and return home safely.

Thanks to all for another year of unwavering commitment, dedication and volunteerism.



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6438 Paradise Point Rd, Flowery Branch GA 30542-3143

DIVISIONS

1 Mid-South Jim Norris; 256-584-6527; jnorris2@charter.net
2308 Jade Pointe Dr SE, Decatur AL 35603-5230

2 Steel City Whit Fancher; 205-746-0007; crownlandscapeservices@gmail.com
100 Bridge Dr, Vestavia AL 35242-2826

3 Dixie Brett Scott; 334-799-3096; davidbrettscott@gmail.com
803 Durden Rd, Prattville AL 36067-1534

4 Gulf Reed Reed Ostrander; 850-830-6331; drostrander@bellsouth.net
7622 N Shores Dr, Navarre FL 32566-8411

5 Piedmont Walt Liles; 678-896-6311; wiles.crrman@gmail.com
4388 Brandon Cv NE, Marietta GA 30066-2106

6 Empire William Attaway; 478-954-9200; attawayw@mac.com
118 Lenox Dr, Bonair GA 31005-3604

7 Palmetto Ken Majchzak; 864-335-9096; kemajchrzak@gmail.com
520 Wagon Trl, Simpsonville SC 29681-3916

8 Atlantic David Toll; 845-489-5795; toll.david.c@gmail.com
6001 S Kings Hwy, Myrtle Beach SC 29575-4965

9 Central Savannah River Robin Riley; 803-226-9536; robindriley@gmail.com
191 Twin Ponds Ln, Aiken SC 29803-1713

10 Bluff City Steven Flowers; 615-308-4481; stevestrains@aol.com
1604 Lindsey Ln, Southaven MS 38672-8530

11 Cumberland Bob Hultman; 615-833-5158; hultman@bellsouth.net
1305 Chestnut Dr, Brentwood TN 37207-7828

12 Smoky Mtn Allen Keller; 423-586-8057; allenkeller@charter.net
7410 Lebanon Church Rd, Talbot TN 37877-8940

13 Cherokee Roy Masterson; 423-227-0334; rwmasterson@epbfi.com
3502 Glendon Dr, Chattanooga TN 37411-4114

14 Magnolia Pat McCarty; 601-955-0510; maccars@gmx.com
3815 Rebecca Ct, Jackson MS 39216-3719

15 Carolina Mtn Bill Raymond; 828-513-5051; trainman@morrisbb.net
3001 Hickory Nut Trl, Hendersonville NC 28739-7804

16 Plateau Tom Shallcross; 931-484-7565; chipmonk4@comcast.net
18 Briar Ct, Crossville TN 38558-8810

THE CLUB CAR

This is a list of clubs and organizations in the Southeastern Region. Most have some NMRA members. If you have a club that is accepting new members or visitors, please 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, yruoslo728@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
President paul.henry.sc@gmail.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 additional info; nssavage@juno.com

Central Savannah R Division 9

- OFRRRA Operators**, Tuesday nights, Aiken SC, Steve Prevette, 803-392-7684

Cumberland Division 11

- 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.tcr.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.mgbr.org
- Wiregrass Steel Wheels Sub-Division**, Dothan, AL
Dan Adams, 334-588-3312; danielma522@centurytel.net

Empire Division 6

- Columbus [GA] Model RR Club**, info@columbusarearailroadclub.com
- Flint River Model RR Club**, Albany, GA, Jimmy Swinn, 229-883-3517
- MGMRC - Middle Georgia Model RR Club**, Warner Robins, GA
Bill Attaway, 478-954-9200; mgmrc@cox.net; www.mgmrc.org
- CGMRC - Central Georgia Model RR Club**, Macon, GA
Ken Preston, ken.preston@cox.net
- MGRA - Middle Georgia RR Association**, Bill Jones
wrljones845@aol.com; middlegeorgiarailroadassociation.com
- South Georgia Model RR Club**, Hahira, GA, (Near Valdosta)
Todd Tait, 229-548-3611

Gulf Division 4

- Caboose Club**, Foley Railroad Museum, 125 E Laurel Ave, Foley, AL 36535
Bonnie Donaldson, 251-943-1818; foleymuseum@gulftel.com
- CATT - Coastal Alabama T-TRAK**, Bruce Arbo, 228-669-6705
coastalalabamatrak@gmail.com, nationalt-traklayout.com
- Consolidated Model Railroaders (CMRX)**, Panama City, FL
Buddy Black, 850-624-6240; black@novatechnologies.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; miraclestripmodelrrclub.com
- Mobile Society of Model Engineers**, Alabama Gulf - Chapter, NRHS
2800 Graham Rd, S Mobile, AL; Dave Miller, 251-645-2296
- Pensacola Model Railroad Club (PMRC)**, Pensacola, FL
HO Division - Steve "Chip" Borona, 850-384-3206; www.PMRC.us
N Division - 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

Cherokee Division 13

- Chattanooga Area Model Railroad Club (CAMRC)**, Chattanooga, TN
Ed Juare, 423-598-9925; railfan@ejpj.com, www.camrc.org
- Chattanooga Society of Model Engineers**, Dunlap, TN
Andy Morrison, 423-344-8502; csme.livesteamtrains.com
- Chattanooga Modular Modelers, Inc.** meet Monday & Thursday at 6:30 pm
Mark McAllister, 423-424-0352; www.chatmodmod.org

Carolina Mountain Division 15

- Apple Valley Model Railroad Club**, Hendersonville, NC
Located in Hendersonville Station; www.avmrc.net
- French Broad e'N'pire NTRAK Club**, Henderson, NC
Chuck Place, 828-685-2726; hmp3@blueridge.net; www.fdr-ntrak.com
- Western North Carolina Model Railroaders**, Fred Coleman, 828-699-0983

Magnolia Division 14

- Central Mississippi Model Railroad Association**, Jackson, MS
MS Ag and Forestry Museum, 1150 Lakeland Dr, Jackson MS 39216
Niils 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.rmrc.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.amroc.org
- 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, 770-565-1845;
- 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
- Country RRoads Modular (HO)**, Morris Smith
sawdustmaker@mindspring.com; www.countryroadsmodular.com
- Georgia Association of Narrow Gaugers**, Pat Turner, 423-744-0429
groups.yahoo.com/group/georgiangaugers; GeorgiaNGers@yahoo.com
- 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.nglrc.org OR questions@nglrc.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
- S-COG Southern Crescent Operating Group**
Joe Gelmini, 770-460-8873; papagel@comcast.net
- 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.crossvilletrain.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**, 1006 E. Lamar Alexander Pkwy, Maryville, TN 37804
Mark Fisher, 865-982-8731; meetings each Saturday, 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; Jason Parham, 205-534-6529
- Steel City Shifters Operating Group** jstew@bhamrails.info



Decatur, AL

HISTORIC UNION DEPOT

The historic Decatur union passenger depot was built by the Southern Railway in 1905 and is a symbol of the city's rich railroad heritage which extends back to the 1830s when the first railroad west of the Allegheny Mountains, the Tuscumbia, Courtland and Decatur was built. A union depot was the result of the joint use of the depot by two railroads, the Southern and the Louisville & Nashville railroads.

The Depot was Alabama Main Street's 2015-2016 Historic Preservation Project of the Year. Its street address is 701 Railroad Street, 35601.



**Give us a call at (800) 524-6181
to schedule your tour!**

Open Streets Emory Event

by Sally Bando

The Piedmont Division is always looking for new ways to share the hobby of Model Trains. Piedmont Division was asked last year to set up a small train set for an *Open Streets Emory Event*. We did and it was great! We just finished our 2nd annual display at the event. We are already on the books for the 2020 event. *Open Streets Emory* is a street festival held the last Sunday in October. The roads are closed and there are vendors, music, face painting, Halloween Costume contest for the dogs, a ducky stream race, and MODEL TRAINS!!!

Since it is really hard to take a HO or N scale layouts out in the elements, Piedmont Division decided to ask the G-Scale members to help out with this task. So, James and Sally Bando along with Chris Haon put together some portable track and ran trains on the driveway of Majik Dry Cleaners.

The special thing about this train is that it delivered lollipops by open ore cars to the children. The children were so excited. The event was an introduction to the community where many of the families have grandparents, parents or other family members who work the 1:1 trains in the area. The stories you hear are precious! This year we used the banner that the SER gave each Division. I heard many of the visitors say "Look, NMRA." Quite pleased at how many people actually know what the NMRA is.

Sally Sears is a local TV celebrity who is the organizer and founder of the annual event. This is the 8th year for Open Streets Emory.



Sally Sears (2nd from left) and staff along with Sally Bando of the Piedmont Division of the NMRA share Model Trains at Open Streets Emory! James Bando

This is only a 4 hour event, but creates such good relationships with the area. Our main objective was to share Model Trains. Of course, if we had any new members sign up that was great too!

We had flyers for our Piedmont Pilgrimage, March Model Train Show and the June Train Show to let visi-



All set up and ready to deliver lollipops via ore cars! Sally Bando

tors know that we are active in the community.

Word Power

In case you missed this in your clinic on Track Laying.

Switch and Turnout

No railroad dictionary has ever been able to satisfactorily define the difference between "SWITCH" and "TURNOUT."

However, a model railroad convention was held in the United States and attended by some of the best modelers in the world.

At this convention, Shynee Rayals, a Master Model Railroader, was a track laying clinic presenter and was asked to make that very distinction.

The question put to him by a colleague in the audience was this: "Some say there is no difference between 'Switch' and 'Turnout'. Please explain the difference in a way that is easy to understand."

Mr. Rayals' response was this: "When you first get into model railroading, get your first toy train and

assemble your trackage, you install a 'switch' so you can have a siding.

When you get more advanced in your model railroading and build a layout, you install several 'turnouts' as you develop sidings, yards, etc.

Then during an operating session when you 'switch' the 'turnout' the wrong way, you have a "cornfield meet!"

His answer received a five-minute standing ovation.

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**Go to www.ser-nmra.org/content/home-layout-tours-1 for
details as to location and when it will be open for visiting.**

