

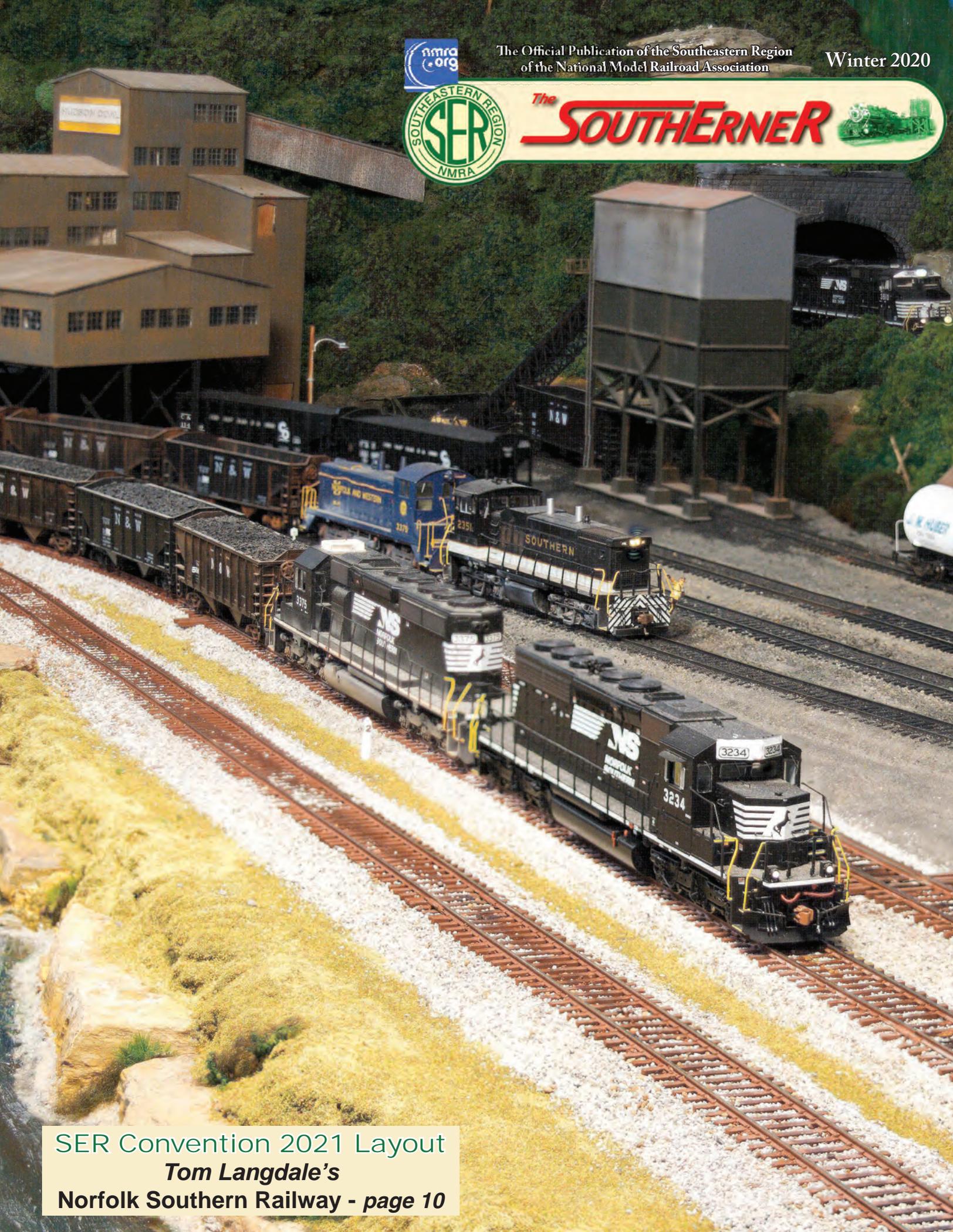


The Official Publication of the Southeastern Region  
of the National Model Railroad Association

Winter 2020



*The* **SOUTHERNER**



SER Convention 2021 Layout  
*Tom Langdale's*  
Norfolk Southern Railway - page 10



## The President's Car Larry Burkholder

The Covid-19 crisis continues and only seems to be getting worse. I know all of

us are eager to get back to in person group model railroading activities. Now does not seem to be the time for that. There are, however, a lot of group participation that can be done virtually.

As I write this in mid-November, the Piedmont Division is conducting their annual Piedmont Pilgrimage of home layout tours virtually. This means that you did not have to live close to the layouts to visit them. Unfortunately, by the time you read this the pilgrimage will be over. Many of the divisions are holding meetings on Zoom or other similar programs. We have also had regional and national virtual clinic programs that many of you have enjoyed.

I know our Education Chairman Owen Maddux will be discussing in his column some virtual clinics he is arranging. Let's keep ourselves safe and help limit the spread of the virus by wearing masks, social distancing and utilizing the virtual programs available. If everyone does their part, we will get through this much faster.

A model railroading friend of mine is in hospice care battling cancer. He can't do much, but he is still enjoying the hobby by doing various layout track designs. He knows he will never build any of these, but it keeps his spirits up and maybe someone else will be able to utilize one of his designs.

A few weeks ago, I tore the achilles tendon in my left foot. This has put me on crutches for three weeks. Unable to get downstairs to work on my trains I was pretty much just vegetating in my lounge chair watching TV and reading. The email from my friend mentioned

above woke me up and made me realize that there were actually a lot of model railroading things I could still be doing.

I am now back to trying to learn how to program on Arduino and designing a program for N&W type position signal control on my layout. Before my accident I was figuring out how to build these signals in N- scale using nano LEDs. I'll get back to doing that later.

The point I am trying to make here is that you should not give up on the hobby just because you are having or have had some problems. If you can't do the active things you used to do, look for another part of the hobby to pursue. It will give you enjoyment and hopefully take your mind off your troubles.

The Palmetto Division is still moving forward with their plans for the 2021 SER convention. The *Swamp Rabbit Express* is planned for Greenville, SC, June 10 to the 13. Let's hope the virus crisis has diminished enough by then to hold it. A decision on that will be made in the Spring. Check their web site [www.swamprabbitexpress.org](http://www.swamprabbitexpress.org) for continuous updates. **SER**

## 2021 SER Board of Directors Election 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 2021 are:

- **President**
- **Treasurer**
- **Two (2) Directors**

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

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, 2021** to:

**SER Nominating Committee**

**[nominations@ser-nmra.org](mailto:nominations@ser-nmra.org)**



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423-826-7212; [SouthErneR@ejpj.com](mailto: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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## An NMRA Member Recruitment Opportunity

by Peter Youngblood, MMR

Recently I was invited to present a clinic to a 55+ active living retirement community one hour's drive north of my home. The solicitation came from a fellow Piedmont Division member who lives there and who'd seen my clinic at our Piedmont Division meet-



Bob Wheeler & Brian Chapin

ing one week prior. His email stated he thought the onsite model railroad club would enjoy seeing, maybe even implementing some of what was illustrated in the presentation. Not having presented to this kind of community before, I hadn't any idea what to ex-

pect. Boy, was I in for a surprise! Born in a casual social discussion at a past annual Christmas Party, several residents discovered they had a common hobby interest in railroads even, to some extent, model railroads. It wasn't long thereafter that a coordinated effort began to find out how many other residents shared this interest and the possibility of forming an onsite model railroad club.

Led by two residents (and NMRA members) Brian Chapin and Bob Wheeler, discussions began in earnest. Available layout space, an unknown quantity at the time, modular construction offered a logical solution. Fortunately, Piedmont Division member Charlie Crawford, MMR, a local

modular layout owner, was solicited to show the group how modules are built.

His demonstration was the spark igniting the modular construction that followed. The Cresswind Model

Railroad Club grew to 24 members in only 3 years. Modeling in HO scale and adhering to NMRA standards, its members to date have built an astounding 26 modules occupying a 16 ft. x 40 ft. space which can be configured any number of ways.



The modules are set up and DCC operated in the facility's clubhouse as often as other scheduled activities permit. Typically, members own one or two modules. The framework is first cut and assembled in Brian's home workshop before being turned over to



Cresswind Active Retirement Living Community Model Railroad Club

the member to create and construct whatever he chooses will go on top. Each member buys what is needed for his own module. A common theme, southeastern railroads in the summers of the mid-1960's, is well represented and enhances continuity.



On occasion members can operate equipment from their own favorite prototype railroad. Some members also model in other scales or possess Lionel trains.

All resident club activities (and there are many!) are communicated via daily emails, the quarterly "Waterfall," the in house newsletter/magazine, and are also posted to the bulletin board in the clubhouse lobby.

The full complement of modules was on display and operating while I was there. These guys were having fun! As is common with any club, member skill levels vary, but the obvious advantage is the fellowship that enables learning from one another and getting help whenever needed.

Sounds familiar, doesn't it? Of course, I also discussed the "many benefits of joining the NMRA" with the group and gave out relevant handouts and forms. The facility's covenants won't allow resident clubs to require 100% mem-

bership in any association in order to participate, but individuals certainly can do as they please. During my visit, several club members expressed interest in joining the NMRA.

I encourage all NMRA Division Superintendents to select a point person to contact 55+ active retirement communities in their area to find out if they already have an onsite model railroad activity or would consider encouraging one. The community I visited has 980 houses populated by approximately 1,800 residents.

Although retired, active they most certainly are and with available discretionary funds are capable of supporting the expenses required to build and maintain a model railroad while having fun and enjoying new friendships formed in the process.

Active retirement communities proliferate throughout the country. This one, Cresswind at Lake Lanier or the many Del Webb communities, are some examples. The NMRA has lots of material available to promote both the hobby and NMRA membership. It's all easy to download at "Promo Materials" after logging into [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) including a 5-minute recruitment "Welcome to Model Railroading" video.

Our collective recruiting efforts to introduce our younger generation to model railroading and the NMRA will continue, but the early retirees I'm drawing your attention to are a great opportunity to grow NMRA membership we mustn't overlook.

For me it was a fortunate and pleasurable discovery. I hope you'll make the effort to enjoy the same. BTW, I've been asked to return. [SER](#)

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850-830-6331

Peter Banks - [pbny@bellsouth.net](mailto:pbny@bellsouth.net)  
850-890-0987

Chuck Mudford - [csmjrl@yahoo.com](mailto:csmjrl@yahoo.com)  
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## Education Department

**Owen Maddux**

Cherokee Division 13

I hope this issue of the **SouthErneR** finds you and your family well and virus free. Have you found time to work on your layout, work on your equipment, or buy stuff from your favorite brick

and mortar store, or online hobby store? We need to keep the train model makers in business if we want to keep our hobby alive and growing.

Exciting new! By way of this column, here's information of four webinars that I have been able to line up for the months of January, February, and March. The dates are January 7 & 9, 2021, January 21, February 4 & 6, and March 2 & 11. This information will be on the SER web site and Rick Coble will be sending out E-Blast a week and a day ahead of time to remind you if you did not write it on your calendar as I have to do otherwise I will forget the date and time, missing the webinars. All webinars will run 45 minutes to an hour depending on questions from the audience.

The first two webinars on January 7 and January 9 are by Jim Lewis of Model Train Technology located in Orlando FL. Web site [www.modeltrainman.com](http://www.modeltrainman.com). The webinar information will be the same for both dates, thus, if the date or time for one is bad for you then perhaps you can join it on the alternate date. The webinar will be on Zoom with no password required. Jim's subject will be an animated lighting, sound, and motion virtual workshop.



**THURSDAY - January 7**

Topic: Model Train Technology - Animation Workshop

Zoom meeting time: 7:30 p.m. EST, 6:30 CST

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85049426029>

**SATURDAY - January 9**

Topic: Model Train Technology - Animation Workshop

Zoom meeting time - 10:30 a.m. EST, 9:30 CST

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82736986616>

The next webinar will be by Lance Mindheim of Custom Layout Building on January 21. Lance lives in Silver Spring, MD. His web site is [www.shelfayouts.com](http://www.shelfayouts.com). There will only be one seminar by Lance and the topic will be

**The Pursuit of Realism.** A description of his clinic is as follows: *Tips for making your layout look more realistic.* The first step is identifying which areas create the most visual impact. He will be discussing scene composition, color, backdrops, neatness, and cross sections. This will be followed by some simple tips in each of these areas.

Zoom account number and password will be announced by an E-blast from Rick Coble a week ahead of the date. Lance gave two seminars in May 2019 at the SER's convention in Chattanooga, TN.



**THURSDAY - January 21**

Topic: The pursuit of Realism

Zoom meeting time: 7:30 p.m. EST, 6:30 CST

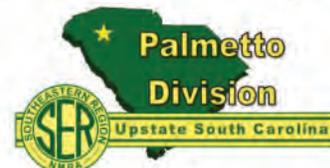


**Greenville, SC**

**NEW DATE: September 9-12**

Information at:

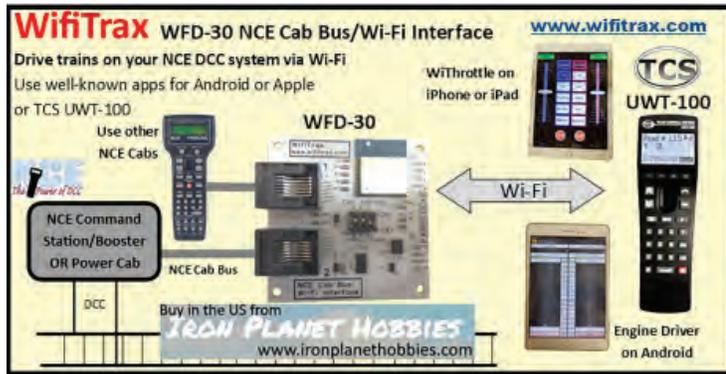
[www.swamprabbitexpress.org](http://www.swamprabbitexpress.org)



The next two webinars will be by Ryan Matthews of Iron Plant Hobbies located in Springfield, MO. The web site is [www.ironplanthobbies.com](http://www.ironplanthobbies.com). Ryan will be discussing and demonstrating his new product from Australia, the WFD-30 NCE Cab Bus/Wi-Fi Interface.

This product will allow someone who has NCE to run up to four locomotives by using their smart phones rather than having to use NCE cabs. If you have wi-fi, then you can run up to eight locomotives by using smartphones as the cabs. Ryan will give his webinars on February 4 and Saturday, February 6. Time permitting, there will be a new product announcement towards the end of the presentation.

Zoom account number and password will be announced by an E-blast from Rick Coble a week ahead of the date.



**THURSDAY - February 4**

Topic: WFD-30 NCE Cab Bus/Wi-Fi Interface

Zoom meeting time: 7:30 p.m. EST, 6:30 CST

**SATURDAY - February 6**

Topic: WFD-30 NCE Cab Bus/Wi-Fi Interface

Zoom meeting time - 10:30 a.m. EST, 9:30 CST

The March webinars will be presented by Eric Smith, who will be discussing how to get started in operations. Eric is the editor of *The Dispatcher's Office*, the quarterly magazine of the Operations Special Interest Group, and he is also on the board of the Operations SIG. Eric's webinars will be on March 2 and again on March 11.

Membership in the Operations SIG starts at just \$10 per year and includes four issues of *The Dispatcher's Office*. Visit [www.opsig.org/Join](http://www.opsig.org/Join) for more information on membership.

Zoom account number and password will be announced by an E-blast from Rick Coble a week ahead of the date.

**TUESDAY - March 2**

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Topic: How to get started in operations

Zoom meeting time: 7:30 p.m. EST, 6:30 CST

**THURSDAY - March 11**

Topic: How to get started in operations

Zoom meeting time: 7:30 p.m. EST, 6:30 CST

After a while, everyone who has a layout starts to think about copying the movement of real trains. Operations can be simple, or it can be complicated with dispatchers, way-bills, switch lists, radios, and other equipment.

I have operated on Dave Houseman's layout which is in his basement and covers approximately 5,000 plus square feet and takes around 22 people to keep everything going. It has four large yards that require two or more operators and at least 5 or more operators to drive the trains from Chicago to Los Angeles or Oakland CA and back.



An operating session can last a few hours or all day.

I hope you can sign on to several of the webinars and learn more about model railroading. [SER](http://www.opsig.org)



# SER Convention 2021 Layout Preview

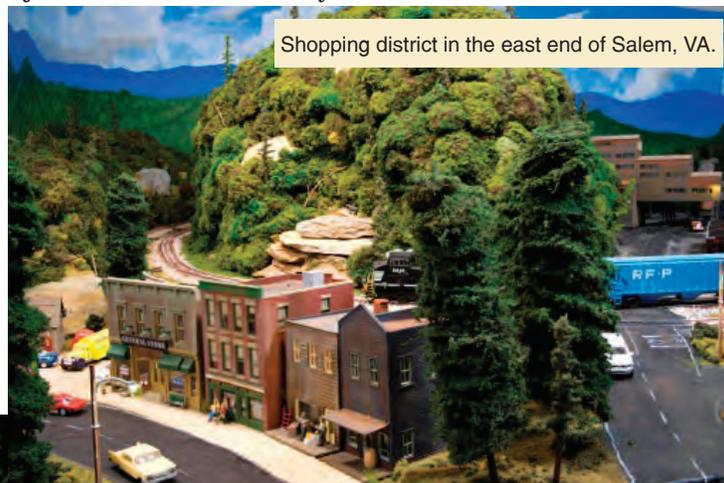
## Norfolk Southern Railway

Article and photos by **Tom Langdale**

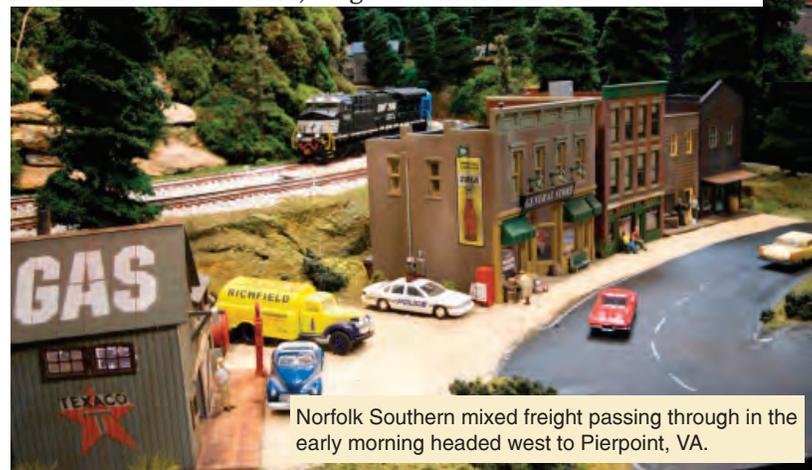
It is June 1991, and the N&W and Southern Railway are in full swing converting to the Norfolk Southern system. There is still plenty of N&W and Southern rolling stock and motive power around to perform the day to day activities while the conversion to Norfolk Southern takes place.

The layout is set in the transition area of June 1991 in the Mountain town of Salem, Virginia which is situated between

passes through. Each boy has his own train to run with maximum speeds set to my comfort level. It's not a racetrack! I just can't convince the boys of that.



Shopping district in the east end of Salem, VA.



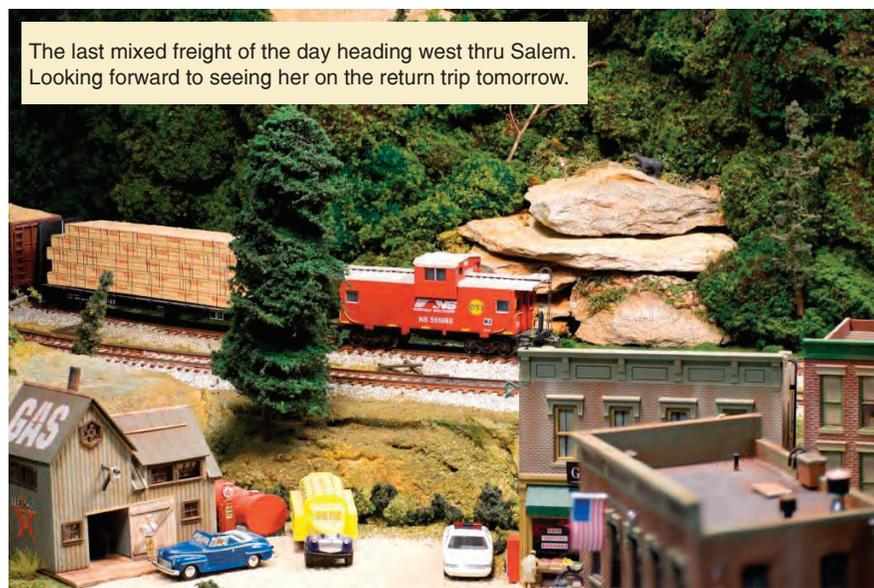
Norfolk Southern mixed freight passing through in the early morning headed west to Pierpoint, VA.

the towns of Roanoke to the East and Pierpoint to the West. Coal and pulp wood are the two main industries that keep the town alive. There are several smaller industries that require switching which can keep a conductor and engineer busy for the day.

Construction started in March of 2020 and has started to really take on the look of a small town in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Foam insulation was stacked, carved, and shaped to the desired look using Shaper sheets to form the larger hills around the East and West ends of town.

Real rock as well as plaster cast rocks were then applied, and all exposed ground was painted with a latex brown paint and covered with various ground foams.

Handmade puff ball trees were installed to cover the mountain and hills, while foreground trees were hand made using Coco Basket material. Detail items were then added to complete the scene. The river was created by lining the bank with real rock and using Woodland Scenic Smooth-It for the riverbed. The riverbed was painted with acrylic paints, details added, and gloss medium applied for the water.



The last mixed freight of the day heading west thru Salem. Looking forward to seeing her on the return trip tomorrow.

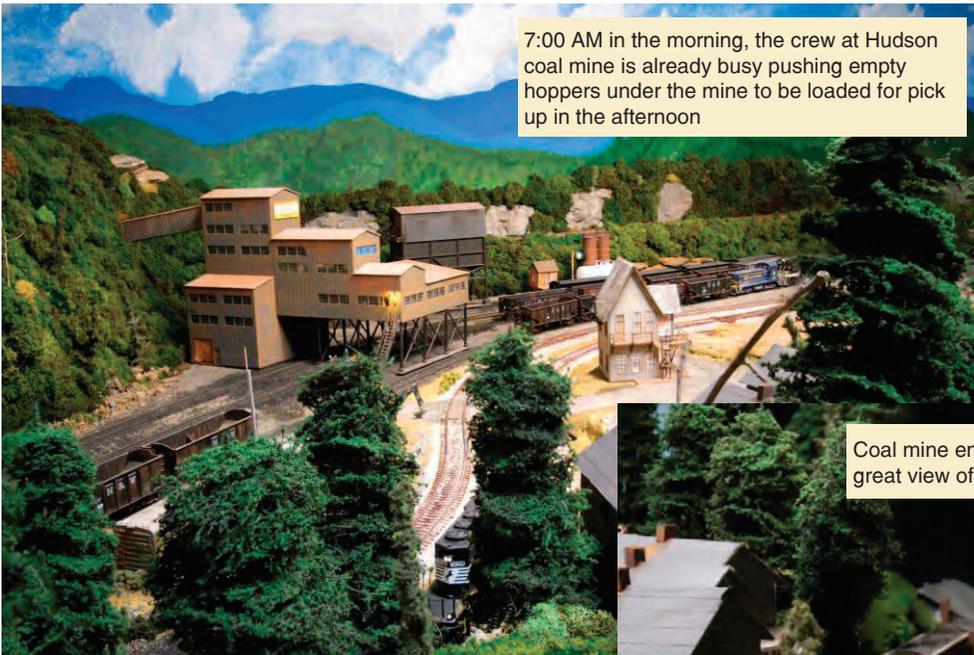
Having built several layouts in the past that were point to point operations, some with reversing loops at both ends, and around the room multi-level layouts, I decided to keep peace in the family (grand kids, twin boys) and build a double main line railroad, modeling one town that the Norfolk Southern

The backdrop was constructed by attaching hard board to the sheet rock wall, hand painted using latex blue paint for the sky and distant mountains, and acrylic paint for the clouds and fore ground mountains.

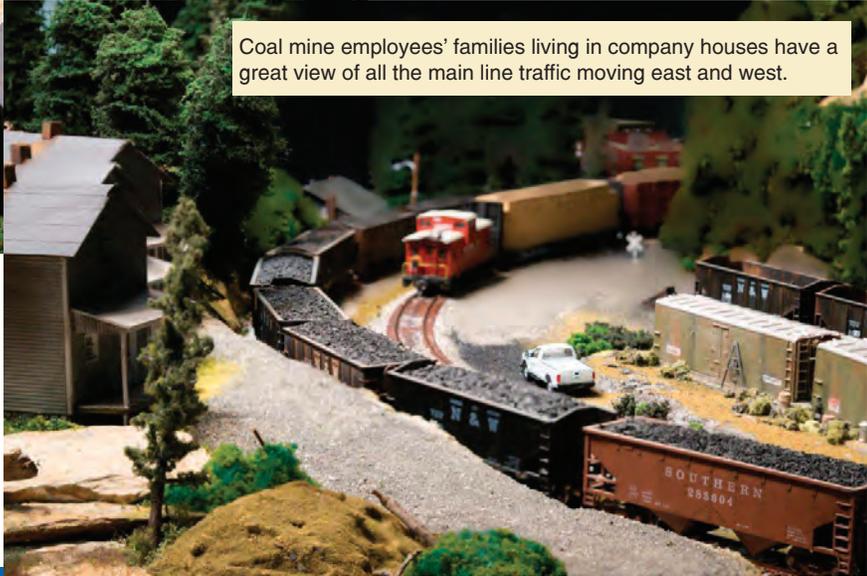
All main line track was ballasted using Arizona Rock and Mineral ballast while sidings and yards were ballasted with sand and Woodland Scenics gray blend ballast. Lighting for interior and exterior of buildings was accomplished using Woodland Scenic Plug and Play system.

By no means is this layout built to hold hundreds of freight cars, take five people to operate it or even have elaborate signal and operating systems but instead it was built to view and operate two or three trains at one time by one person (me), or be able to allow my two grandkids the opportunity to run, enjoy and learn about the hobby.

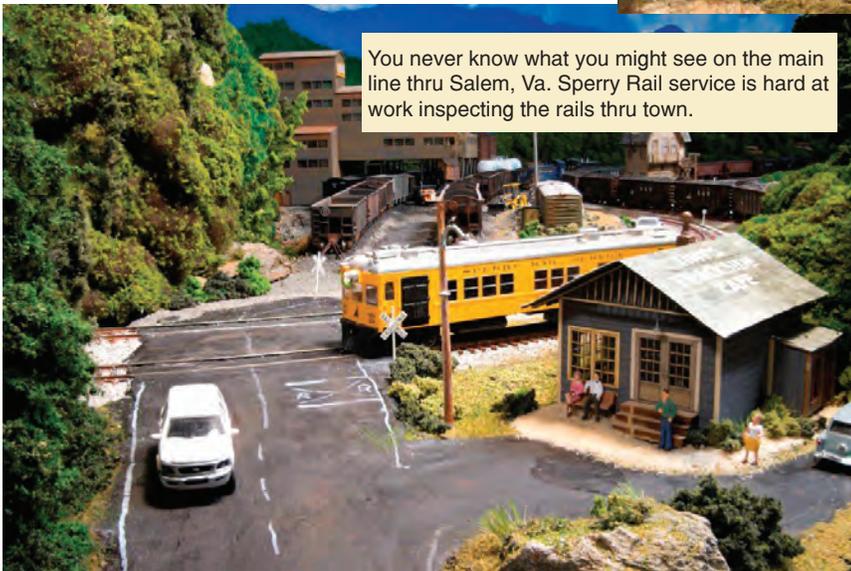
ENJOY THE MOUNTAIN VIEW AND FRESH AIR!! **SER**



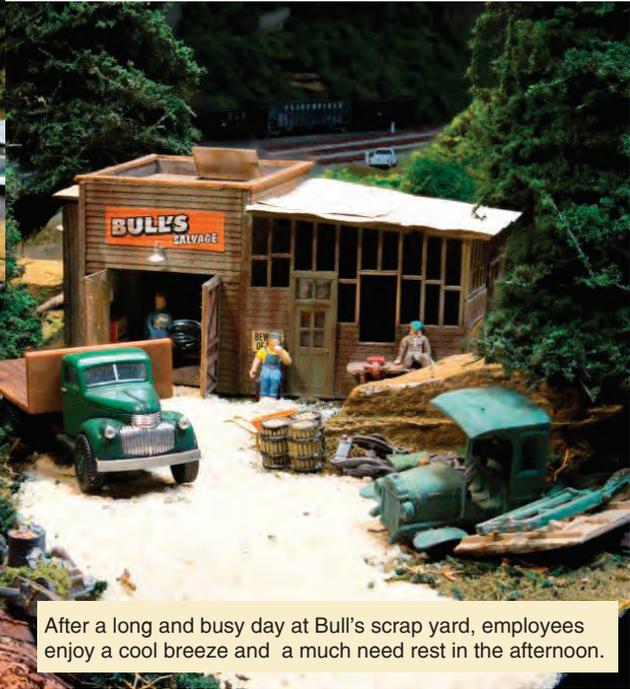
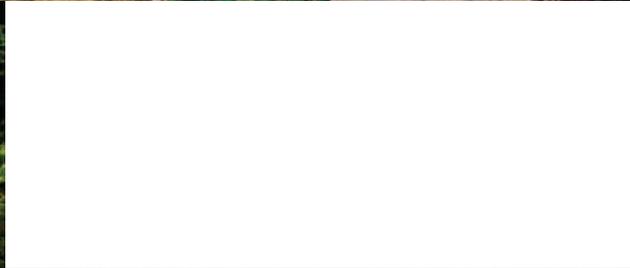
7:00 AM in the morning, the crew at Hudson coal mine is already busy pushing empty hoppers under the mine to be loaded for pick up in the afternoon



Coal mine employees' families living in company houses have a great view of all the main line traffic moving east and west.



You never know what you might see on the main line thru Salem, Va. Sperry Rail service is hard at work inspecting the rails thru town.



After a long and busy day at Bull's scrap yard, employees enjoy a cool breeze and a much need rest in the afternoon.



# Train Wheel & Truck Muck

Article and photos by **Fred Boucher**

The growing popularity of railroad subjects in the static model community has expanded the common model railroad question of *What color are wheels, trucks, and bogies?* I hope these images will help modelers clarify this question for their modeling enjoyment.

What color are trucks? The answer is *What color aren't they?* That isn't meant to be flippant. Rather, the color of track can vary widely depending on the era, the environment, maintenance, whether under steam, diesel or electric locomotives, even the season.

The specific trucks were photographed in October in East Tennessee. They run on a light-use excursion 3-foot narrow gauge track. Other trucks and wheels shown are on operating and display steam locomotives and rolling stock.

Note the bright yellow-orange fresh rust on the driver tire of a steam locomotive (*photo bottom right*). Photographed in July, the engine had just braked to a stop about an hour earlier. Look at the tank car and Wabash box car: the tank car shows wheel splatter sprayed against the ends plus how dust and grime has washed down the sides to pool on the bottom of the tank cylinder.

Oil and grease change the hues. Note the visible face of the wheels under "29." Dust and dirt add unique coloration, too. You can also discern the proper color(s) based on the drawbar and coupling equipment. These are also heavy metal components that exposed to the same spray of particulates as the wheels. The couplers even show green moss!

One other reference is the color of rail. Rail and wheels are made of similar metal, both are exposed to similar weathering. Wheels on rail knock off zillions of metal flakes and that becomes dust which settles on the trucks.

## So what color are trucks?

Many colors! The truck under repair shows Rio



Grande wheels cast nearly 90 years ago.

Images referenced in this article and further references can be explored at this link: <https://railroadmodeling.kitmaker.net/modules.php?op=modload&name=features&file=view&artid=5286>.

Additional links are available on Fred's site.

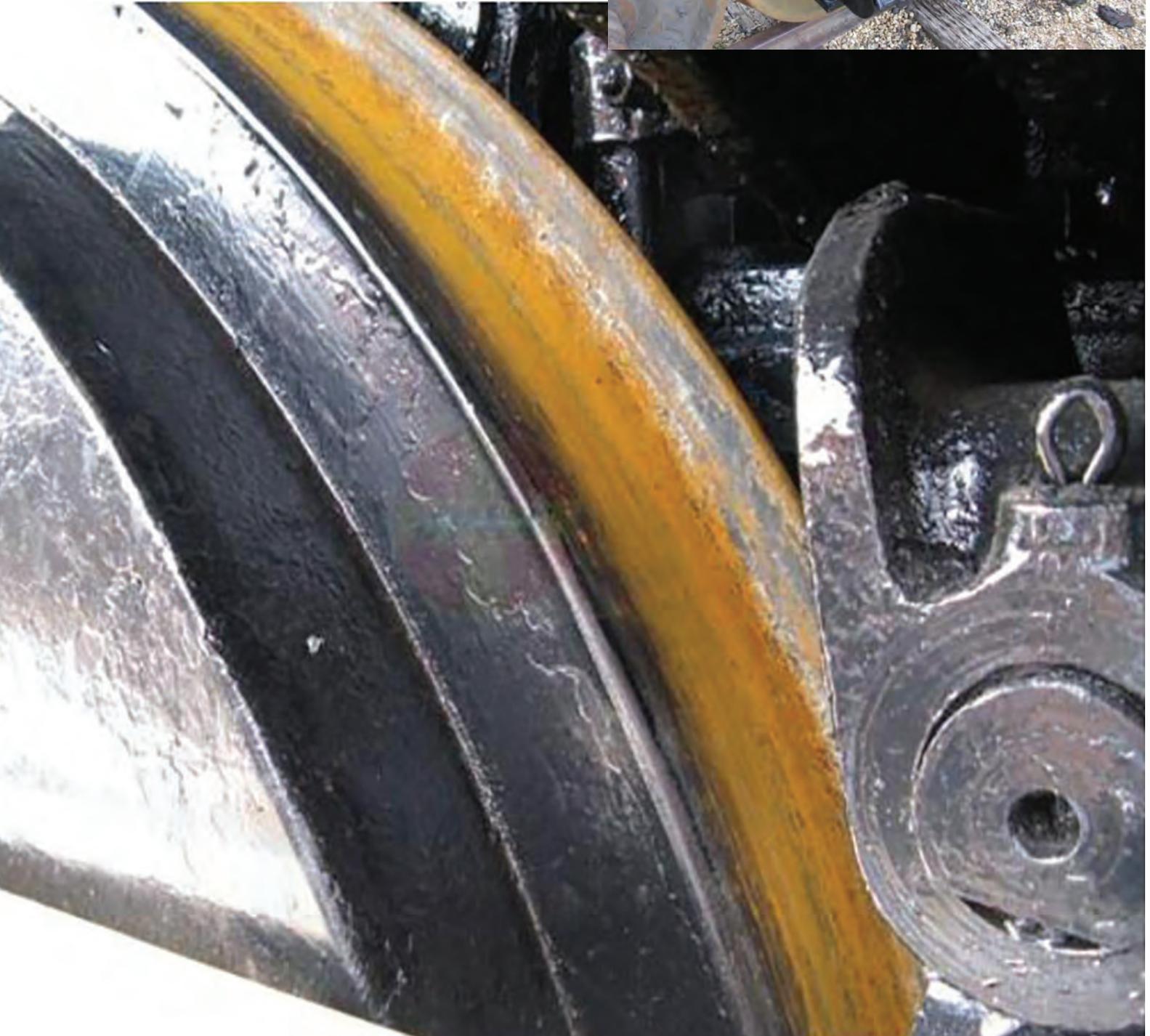
**Layout Scenes IV: Rail & Tie Color**

**Steam Locomotive Weathering**

**Roaring Camp RR Reference Gallery**

**Rudy Narrow Gauge Railway**

Attempts to create authentic truck color should be preceded by research into your subject. Consider the time and era of the subject, what was hauled, and traffic densities. Above all, enjoy your hobby and model what makes you happy! [SER](#)

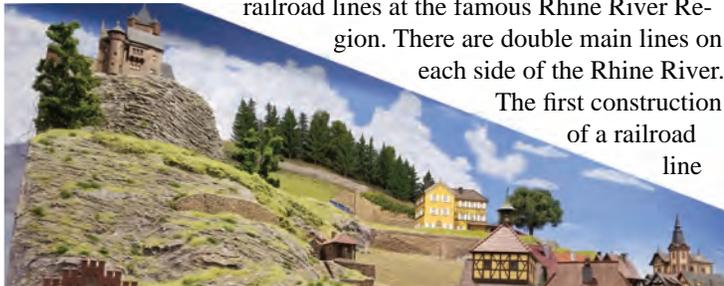


# SER Convention 2021 Layout Preview Rhine River Valley Railroad

Article and photos by *Markus Weller*

**This is the story of the German Rhine River Valley Railroad prototype.**

I grew up around 300 feet away from one of Germany's busiest railroad lines at the famous Rhine River Region. There are double main lines on each side of the Rhine River.



The first construction of a railroad line

started in mid 1800 and gained more and more of importance in the following years. It is the fastest connection between the south and north in West Germany.

The region between the city's Ruedesheim and Koblenz in 2002 became part of the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage because there are more than 30 castles very close to each other. It is worldwide the densest region of castles. Those castles were built and used by landlords to collect toll money from ships pulled by horses upstream. Today most castles are ruins and under a strict heritage protection law. Some castles that survived in good condition are now used for events or host a restaurant.



Close to 600 trains, both sides combined, passing by each day results in a train density of one train every 5 minutes. Since the Rhine River Valley between the two City's mentioned above is so narrow, some of the houses are so closely built to the tracks that you can almost touch the trains when you reach your arm out of the window.

## Layout Region Representation

The layout I built is a representation of this region with two passenger stations, a larger city and a small suburban town with half-timbered houses. In the City of Lorch is a small military station what I also freely represent. Typical for the region around the Rhine River are small harbors along the river. A railroad maintenance yard with round house and shift table, like in the cities of Wiesbaden and Mainz will be featured as well. There is no specific



era I model because my interest is from steam engines over diesel to electric trains. A few prototype landmarks will be built as close as possible.

## Status of the Construction

The construction started in 2014 with some remodeling of the available space. Room size is 25'x19', double main line loop with a single branch line to the commercial section. The shadow station will hold 38 trains from 2 ft. to 4 ft. (typical German trains are by

far not as long then US trains).

The framework is finished, track is laid and to 80% finished (ballast/painted/ weathered). Some segments are almost done but overall, not more then 50 -60% at the current time. The layout is DCC controlled with Roco Z21 by using smart phone and tablets. Switching will be done with the help of a PC and the

Program Win-Digiped. Layout and rooms lights are controlled over DMX with the help of another computer that interfaces with the Train control Software. A Faller Car-System is also in the making.







## Division 4 - Gulf

Reed Ostrander ~ [drostrander@bellsouth.net](mailto:drostrander@bellsouth.net)

Fall is a period when things are supposed to ramp up in model railroading. Typically, it is a season of shows beginning in September and extending into December here in Gulf Division 4. But not so this year as one would expect with Covid-19 on the rampage. So, what to do?

Getting the "executive council of the Gulf Division" together by phone and email, we decided to try and put together a virtual event for the division. To that end the Division will invest in a subscription to Zoom and see if we can have some fun and get members reinvigorated in model railroading.

We will virtual Mini-Meet on Saturday, March 20 which any NMRA member can attend simply by indicating that they wish to tune in via Zoom. In the works are 5 clinics and run sessions on area model railroads with discussions of what is involved in the operations. Discussions will involve back and forth between attendees and presenters.

At least four model railroads will be involved: The Pensacola Model Railroad Club HO Division; Dan Hayden's HO Nace-

dah and Edgewood; Dennis Resor's HO Rock Island; Glenn Samuels' N scale; Peter Banks will show how to interface scale and 3 rail 0 gauge; rail clinics will include operational techniques on the listed railroads and topics in modeling.

The members of PMRC will demonstrate their extra-large roundhouse modules with engine service and supply, and the new drop-in connecting bridge allowing access to an adjoining permanent model railroad. On Dan Hayden's layout, switching the Omaha Swift meat packing plant and associated Omaha receiving yards will be the subject matter.

On Dennis' layout, operation of freights and scheduled passenger trains will be covered. Glenn Samuels will demonstrate a super lightweight 4-foot module. All in all, some fun, entertainment, and a bit of learning with back and forth discussion. Time will be about 3 hours and attendance time is up to the attendees.

So, join us by contacting me or my assistant supers for time and methods. Just need a computer with a camera (preferably) and a Zoom contact we supply. Just email or call us for how to. Easy! See ya in March.



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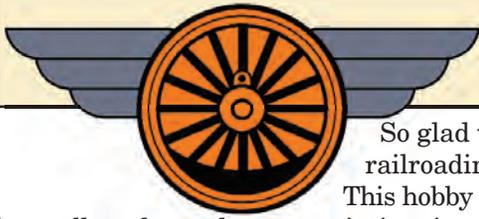
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## Division 5 - Piedmont

Perry Lamb ~ [perry\\_lamb@mindspring.com](mailto:perry_lamb@mindspring.com)

So glad we have model railroading as our hobby. This hobby and the NMRA have allowed us to keep on enjoying times even though so much has changed in 2020. I am personally wrapping up my final year as the Piedmont Superintendent. It has been a pleasure and honor to represent and lead our division over the past 4 years with many fine folks on the leadership team.

We had our electronic election in November. Our new officers elected will be as followed:

- Perry Lamb** – Superintendent
- Jim Datka** - Director of Administration
- Gary Fish** - Director of Personnel
- Hank Primas** - Director at Large
- Raymond Stewart** - Director at Large
- Peter Thomas** - Director at Large
- Jim Hobbs** - Director at Large

Congratulations to all these folks who ran and Chuck Hoesch, Rick Coble and Doug Alexander for managing and assisting on helping with the elections that went smooth.

We are excited to still have our annual Holiday Party this year but, it will just be virtual. We will continue our Christmas /Railroad Trivia for members and guest with nice prizes for the winners and presenting awards for our outstanding members. We will also be gathering new unwrapped toys for Toys-for-Tots again this year at key drop off locations for our members. We keep going and that is what makes a strong NMRA Division. We get back up and try something else. COVID-19 is not going to stop us.

I am so proud of our 2020 Piedmont Pilgrimage Team led by Mike Deaton. Currently there has been over 12,000 views of layouts that have been posted before this weekend's release of more railroads. These folks have worked a lot to bring everyone some of the finest railroads seen around. Special thanks to SCALETRAINS.COM as well as our sponsor this year. Over 48 layouts will have been presented since October 31 thru November 22. The videos will remain online for folks to continue to enjoy.

Special Thanks to the committee who have done a fantastic job: **Charlie Mason MMR, Tom Gordon, Craig Knox, Bob Kelshaw, Jim Foley, Sally Bando, Rick Coble, Jim Datka, Stephen Pennisi,** and additional resources from **Peter Herman & Brian Olson.**

We decided to start having clinicians outside our division

to make presentations at our monthly meetings. This so far has been good move. The clinics have been excellent and just give a variety to our members to see. On September 8, Chuck Jenkins presented "*Weeds and Trees on Your Model Railroad.*" This was a great clinic. All our clinics are recorded and can be viewed later our YouTube Channel Videos after they are posted. Type in *Piedmont Division of NMRA* in your **YouTube** Search and become one of our subscribers.

To keep our membership excited Jim Datka pulled off the Division Fall Photo Contest. Jim has prepared a complete article on this event for the *SouthErneR*. Jim ran the contest from October 1 through Oct 14. He had several members help him judge which was a tough job with great photo entries. Check out his article on the event.

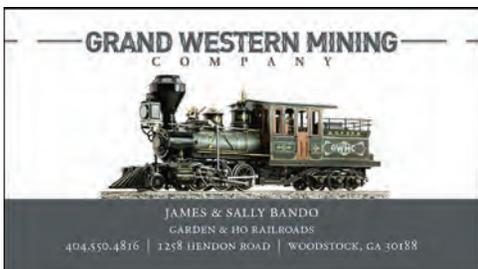
We had our meeting on October 13. Our clinician was Eric Hansmann. Eric presented "*Backdating Freight Cars.*" It was an impressive clinic with lots of great info. We had about 50 people attend virtually which has been about our average.

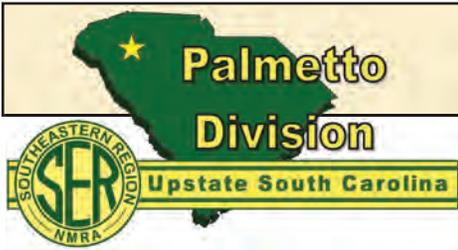
On October 31, Perry Lamb hosted another Train-N-Camp for 2020. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> series of students building their own modules to work towards the Golden Spike Award. We had an early start and began assisting them on building terrain for scenery and placement of new buildings and roadways. We wanted to start on scenery but not all hydrocal material was completely dry for next application. We will need to have more sessions so that they can finish their modules. Perry Lamb, Jim Travis and I were there to help with guidance.

On November 10, we had our regular meeting and Dave Burman was our clinician. Dave presented a fantastic clinic on "*Steel Rails Meet the River.*" Dave had excellent photos and videos to show how all the modes of transportation bring the commodities to the market. Great presentation.

We are still planning 2021 Q1 virtually due to the recent uprise of Covid-19. "**The Piedmont Division Model Train Show**" is planned for March 13-14 at the Clarence Brown Conference Center in Cartersville, GA. The division is really looking forward to this as well as the vendors. Many shows have been cancelled but we are hopeful we will be able to pull it off. Please mark your calendars for the new show.

This is my last column for the SER as Piedmont Division Superintendent. Thank you for your support and may everyone have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. See you in 2021. [SER](#)





## Division 7 - Palmetto

Ken Majchzak ~ [kemajchrzak@gmail.com](mailto:kemajchrzak@gmail.com)

The pandemic continues to put a hold on all the Palmetto Division activities. Our Fall Division meeting was cancelled, and we have high hopes that we will be able to resume Division activities in 2021.



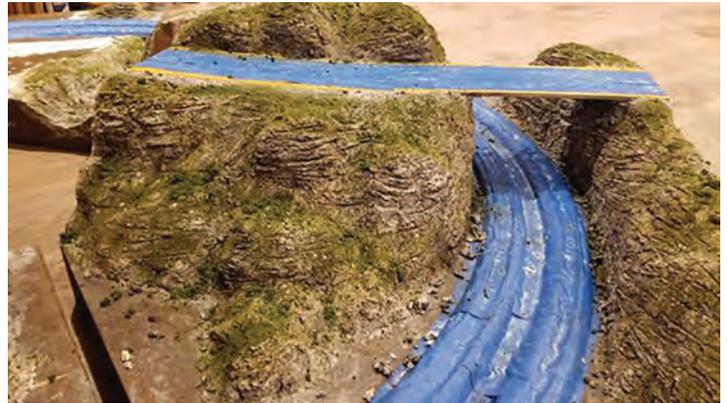
However, work continues in earnest in organizing the 2021 Southeastern Region convention, *The Swamp Rabbit Express*, scheduled for June 10-13. The convention will be held at the Hilton hotel located on Orchard Park Drive,

Greenville, SC. Plans include clinics, layout tours, operations sessions, prototype tours, a Saturday evening banquet, operating layouts in the hotel, model and photo contests, non-rail activities, raffle and consignment sales.

Check out the convention web site at [www.swamprabbitexpress.org](http://www.swamprabbitexpress.org). The website will be continuously updated as plans are firmed up, so check back frequently. Two convention layout



writeups and photos have been submitted by Tom Langdale and Markus Weller for inclusion in this issue of the *SouthErneR*.



The Central Railway Museum continues to remain closed and hopes to reopen January 1. The Hub City Railroad Museum also remains closed but is hoping to reopen for the Christmas Holidays.

The Greenville and Western Railroad still has their annual Santa Train scheduled for December 12. Anyone planning on attending is requested to call ahead to make sure the event is still happening.

The Piedmont and Southern N-Trak modular layout will have its next showing at the 2021 Easley Train Expo being held on February 15 & 16 in Easley, South Carolina. The show has already sold out all the vendor tables so it will be a good way for model railroaders to kick off the new year.

While the NMRA's "At Risk Persons" policy derailed the Palmetto Division's "Kids & Trains" program, division members picked up the T-Trak-HO modules that were started and is proceeding with a division modular layout to be displayed at train shows and special local events. Module construction is proceeding well as can be seen by the included pictures. Our coming out event is scheduled to occur at the **2021 Easley Train Expo**. [SER](http://www.ser.org)

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



**Delta Southern Railroad**

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Dunwoody, GA 30338

770-396-6447  
[deltarr@mindspring.com](mailto:deltarr@mindspring.com)

Bill Orman  
Superintendent



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678 920-8818 (Cell)

## Division 11 - Cumberland

Eric Hansmann ~ [eric@hansmanns.org](mailto:eric@hansmanns.org)

We have held a couple of member gatherings on the Zoom platform. Cumberland Division members enjoyed Charlie Vlk's EMD F-unit exterior spotting feature review at our November meeting. Members also shared and discussed some of their workbench projects.

The Tennessee Central Railway Museum held their November 14th train show. Brian Ehni and Charlie Vlk staffed the Cumberland Division table, discussing NMRA membership benefits in our Division. Attendance was decent before lunch with several Railpass membership forms were distributed.

The show also featured the debut for our new banner. Charlie Vlk created the artwork. The process went through several early versions before a guitar was suggested. Rough sketches and tweaks followed before Charlie

wrapped up a final version to print. It was hard to miss at the recent train show.

Cumberland Division Board members have been discussing possible events to hold when the pandemic eases. We look forward the days when we can meet in-person again. Until then, regular Zoom meetings will keep us informed and inspired.

Several members mourn the death of Bill Welch, who passed away on November 15th. Bill grew up in Tullahoma and spent many years in metro Nashville as a staff photographer with the Tennessean. He made annual visits to the area to catch up with friends.

On his 2019 visit, Bill gave a Fruit Growers Express Company presentation at the L&N Historical Society meeting in Nashville. Bill was one of the finest modelers I have known. He has inspired countless modelers with his generosity of information and encouragement. May we all learn from Bill and share our knowledge to encourage others in our great hobby. *SER*



Above - The Nashville L&N depot of Bob Moody's layout depicting the NC&StL line from Nashville to Chattanooga. The model was built by Wayne Wesolowski.

Below - The Dixie Model Railroad Club layout depicts the NC&StL line from Nashville to Chattanooga. Pictured is the bridge over the Tennessee River near Bridgeport AL.





## Division 12 - Smoky Mountain

Allen Keller ~ [allenkeller@charter.net](mailto:allenkeller@charter.net)

For our first event in 6 months, the Smoky Mountain Division 12 met at Don Marcos Kitchen in Dandridge and held the closest thing we could get to a train show... we had a swap meet.

The 17 members present brought more stuff to trade than we had really expected, but there is no way to actually



Members enjoy a nice meal before the swap meet.

know what will show up. Bargains were had and the happy sellers and buyers had a great time, which is what the hobby is all about.

The Superintendent even had a contest on the history of the NMRA with the winner taking home a 2021 *Model Railroader* calendar.



Some happy trades were made.

Once again, the Smoky Mountain Division enjoyed a fun evening at Don Marcos restaurant in Dandridge on November 5. Allen Keller presented

a seminar on track planning, with the main take away being... plan before you build. Division 12 will again return to Dandridge for the January 7 outing. This time we will have another swap meet. So, plan now to find things you

want to trade or sell. Maybe you will get something for Christmas that doesn't fit your current plans. Looking forward to another fun evening of trains and fellowship.



Allen Keller talks about his track plan and what to avoid when planning a layout.



There's always time to enjoy a good meal at Smoky Mountain Division events.

Check out Division 12 at our Facebook page.

[www.facebook.com/SmokyMountainDivisionNMRA](https://www.facebook.com/SmokyMountainDivisionNMRA)



## Division 13 - Cherokee

Roy Masterson ~ [rwmasterson@epbfi.com](mailto:rwmasterson@epbfi.com)

In keeping with COVID-19 recommendations on social distancing model railroading events or meetings are still on hold. I have held a few operating sessions this fall but with

only 4 people instead of 8 to 10 before the pandemic. My home layout is in 3 rooms in my basement and 1 person is assigned to a room where they stay during the session. They handle the switching assignments on both levels in their respective room. I run all trains in and out of staging using my iPhone from my dispatchers' desk. We are only running half of my schedule of trains, but we are able to have fun and enjoy our hobby.

A new club has been formed out at the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum to work in conjunction with the TVRM

on the layout in the basement of the TVRM's main office. The Tennessee Valley Model Railroaders Inc. has been granted nonprofit status as a 501(c)(3). New officers and board members of the TVRM have been elected. The Chattanooga Area Model Railroad Club was dissolved before the TVRM was formed and all assets were donated to the new club.

The Chattanooga Modular Modelers, in lieu of in person meetings, is continuing to hold weekly WEBEX online meetings. The group meets every Thursday evening from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m. Each week they select a topic for discussion.

Hopefully, the new vaccines soon developed to fight COVID-19 will mean we can all get together in 2021 like we could before 2020. See you in 2021!

# Achievement Program

*New Awards in Our Southeastern Region This Quarter*

## Carolina Mountain Division



**Ken O'Brien**  
Model Railroad Author  
Certificate

## Palmetto Division



**Howard R. Garner, MMR**  
Association Official  
Certificate

## Palmetto Division



**David Winans**  
Golden Spike Award

## Piedmont Division



**Mike Cummings**  
Master Builder Cars  
Certificate

### Division AP Chairmen for Divisions which have them

Bluff City (10)

Greg Scharfetter; [gasharfetter@bellsouth.net](mailto:gasharfetter@bellsouth.net); 901-219-4219

Carolina Mountain (15)

Ben Bartlett, MMR; [b3j2c@yahoo.com](mailto:b3j2c@yahoo.com); 818-883-2799

Cherokee (13)

Dale Bryant; [livewire@fbright.com](mailto:livewire@fbright.com); 423-991-5243

Cumberland (11)

George Gilbert, MMR; [rgilbert@comcast.net](mailto:rgilbert@comcast.net); 615-352-1254

Gulf (4)

Peter Banks MMR; [pbny@bellsouth.net](mailto:pbny@bellsouth.net); 850-890-0987

Magnolia (14)

Troy Hight; [trhg6@aol.com](mailto:trhg6@aol.com); 601-416-7617

Mid South (1)

Sandy William Warrington; [warrington@msm.com](mailto:warrington@msm.com); 256-617-8098

Palmetto (7)

Howard Garner MMR; [cascaderail@bellsouth.net](mailto:cascaderail@bellsouth.net); 864-878-4705

Piedmont (5)

Charles Mason MMR; [candjmason@att.net](mailto:candjmason@att.net); 770-993-1589

Plateau (16)

Richard Morris; [rmorris52@twlakes.net](mailto:rmorris52@twlakes.net); 931-864-3909

Smokey Mountain (12)

Larry Burkholder; [labtexan@chartern.net](mailto:labtexan@chartern.net); 865-408-9903

Steel City (2)

Tom Schultz; [svrr@charter.net](mailto:svrr@charter.net); 205-879-3603

# DEADLINES

February 15 - Spring

May 15 - Summer

August 15 - Fall

November 15 - Winter

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**\$16/YEAR (FOUR ISSUES)**

# The Business of Railroading

by Tom Schultz  
Steel City Division 2

## Rail Acquisitions

CSX Corp has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Pan Am Railways, which operates North America's largest regional railway in the New England region.

Headquartered in North Billerica, Massachusetts, Pan Am owns and operates a 1,800 mile Class II network and has a partial interest in the 600 mile Pan Am Southern route, which it operates jointly with Norfolk Southern. It connects with the four eastern Class I operators CN, CP, CSX and NS, as well as more than 20 regional and short line railways.

The acquisition will add Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine to CSX's existing 23-state network, while expanding its reach in Connecticut, New York, and Massachusetts.

Martin Marietta Materials Inc. recently acquired three quarries and the remaining 49 percent interest in another ballast-supplying quarry from CEMEX Inc. for \$65 million.

The acquired quarries are located in Fort Calhoun, Nebraska; Guernsey, Wyoming, and Milford, Utah. The Guernsey and Milford operations are rail served while the Fort Calhoun quarry ships aggregate materials via trucks and barges.

Martin Marietta now becomes sole owner of a Granite Canyon, WY., quarry, where the company serves as operating manager. The quarry is a major ballast supplier for BNSF Railway Co. and Union Pacific Railroad.

"These operations are a very good fit with our western business and will enable us to pursue growth via additional rail and water transport possibilities," said Martin Marietta Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Stephen Zelnak Jr. in a prepared statement.

## European Rail Post-Covid-19

In European rail news, Railroad Technology on its website stated that with the Covid-19 pandemic grounding planes and pushing airlines into financial peril, alternative means of international travel such as rail could benefit. Investment banking firm UBS believes that a combination of improving rail market conditions and changing attitudes to train travel could enable this.

As part of its report – entitled "By train or by plane? The traveler's dilemma after Covid-19 and amid climate concerns" – UBS Evidence Lab surveyed 4,000 people in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Germany and China.

It found that the majority of business travelers surveyed were willing to accept travel times of two to three hours on trains. This time was much higher for leisure travelers, with the majority prepared to go on rail journeys five to six hours or longer.

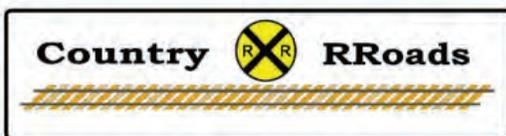
Meanwhile, UBS predicts that global air traffic growth will drop from 5.1% to 4.6% over 2018-2028. The company also estimates that there will be approximately 800 more high-speed trains in operation in Europe within the next decade, while 196 fewer planes will be required globally.

If people opt to use trains instead of flying or driving, UBS says this could save as much as five million tonnes in CO2 emissions during the next ten years.

This begs the question, "Can rail compete with flying?"

There are some doubts whether rail travel could surpass flying as the international travel mode of choice, at least in the immediate future – unless there is a noticeable drop in both ticket prices and journey times.

"The trouble is that the economics of taking trains for medium distances across Europe is just much higher. So not only is there a time cost in that it's slower, but it is likely to be more expensive," says transport journalist and railway historian Christian Wolmar. "I went to Romania this year. And to get to Romania, I would have had to take six trains and it would have taken me 40 hours. That's just not feasible," he adds.



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Morris Smith: [heisler299@gmail.com](mailto:heisler299@gmail.com)

“On some common routes – like Barcelona-Madrid or Paris-Lyon – once you’ve got the high-speed trains, it wipes out the aviation market. But there are not many such routes, and there’s an awful lot of point-to-point kind of aviation that will take you to places very fast.

“So unless you have a whole host of policies that are encouraging people to shift from plane to rail, I don’t think you can. But there is some potential there.”

It is clear that there will need to be greater consistency between international rail networks. While western and central Europe typically offers good quality rail networks, there is a noticeable decline as you travel further east.”

Dr. Roger Tyers is an environmental sociologist at the University of Southampton. Last year, he travelled from the UK to China by train. It took him almost two weeks just to make the one-way trip, getting 21 train connections across nine countries.

The trip cost £2,000 (\$2,663.43 U.S.) compared to £700 (\$932.20 U.S.) in flying, but the carbon emissions were 90% lower. “It’s almost like the further east I went, the more basic the services got,” he says.

“The final step was the Trans-Mongolian train to get me to China. Fortunately, the scenery was very beautiful. But the train itself was like a historical artefact.

“Then things kind of flipped completely because when I was in China and taking the high-speed trains, they are probably the nicest trains I’ve taken anywhere in the world. Very modern, extremely fast. It’s almost like an airplane experience.”

At present, no one can say for certain how traveler behavior will be different once the coronavirus has run its course. Yet there are some early indications of rail’s success in the post-Covid-19 world.

“We have recently conducted an online survey among travelers that used a Eurail or Interrail Pass in 2018 or 2019 to measure the impact of Covid-19 on them,” says Eurail general manager Carlo Boselli.

“Travelling by train with a rail pass was seen as the best option for the largest group of respondents, who indicated that they would prefer it for future travels when compared to cars, buses/coaches and planes.”

“Additionally, when asked to rank the different modes of transport based on how comfortable travelers would be to use them as soon as travel will be possible again, 82% of respondents chose [the] train as the most or second-most comfortable method of transport to use.”

“Domestic tourism will be the first to benefit post-Covid-19.”

Alongside this, there are some signs from China of a potential rail travel boom once lockdown has lifted across Europe.

There are predictions that air travel won’t recover to pre-crisis levels until 2023. A number of airlines have gone bust, with others appealing to governments for state aid.

Despite Air France receiving a state bail-out, these funds came with strict conditions that banned the airline from competing with rail for all journeys lasting less than 2.5 hours. The airline is also required to slash emissions by 50% before 2024. Environmental groups have called for these conditions to apply to all state bail-outs for airlines.

Ultimately, the success of future rail travel will require tickets and travel times to be competitive with air travel. Yet, even with current speeds, journey times can at least be partially offset if there is a resurgence of overnight services. These formerly common services were cut due to the prevalence of low-cost airlines in the late 1990s.

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## Piedmont Division Showcases Members Artistry Despite Pandemic

by Jim Datka

The Piedmont Division usually holds Achievement Program Model and Photo Contests in April and October of each year. Covid-19 cancelled our April Contests. We did not want the pandemic to keep our members from achieving Merit Certificates or displaying their photographic skills.

Our Achievement Program Chairman, Charles Mason MMR, began offering individualized evaluations of models in the absence of our in-person meetings. He has made arrangements for judges to meet with modelers in a safe and responsible manner.

As most entries in our photo competition start out as digital images, we attempted a virtual photo contest in October. Unsure of how many members would participate, we decided to simplify the competition by having just two categories: model and prototype.

We sent out an email blast to our active members announcing the contest with instructions as to how to enter. Participants were to respond via email with the information listed in the box below. We limited each member to a total of five images and required a separate email for each entry.

As the individual photos can be quite large, we had participants upload their images separate from their email entry. I used my Google drive as the depository for these images and included instructions for doing this in the email blast.

There are many applications such as Dropbox that offer similar capabilities for many users to safely share large files. I included my contact info in case of any questions or problems in this process. Surprisingly, this untested process went off without a hitch or phone call.

By every measure this virtual contest was a big success. We had 43 entries from 13 members in the two weeks of the contest period - far more than any in-person competition held at our meetings. The biggest problem was for the judges to narrow down the finalists and rank the outstanding photos we received.

To conduct the judging, I separated the images into files for the two categories. I then renamed each image as "Entry No. X" in the order it was received. This eliminated any identification of who submitted the entry.

I sent out links to these two files for the judges and asked them to rank their choices for the top five in each category. I tabulated the votes of the four judges by assigning 5 points to their first choice and down to 1 point for their fifth choice.



As I mentioned, our biggest problem was ranking these images. We ended with a tie in third place in both categories and decided to award four honorable mentions in the prototype category because of the close totals. The results were presented at our November virtual division meeting held on WebEx.

All four judges enjoyed this process. Each had time to review the photos carefully and completely independently. Several of us did an initial ranking and then reviewed our choices the next day resulting in changes after closer ex-

# First Place Model and Best in Show

## Thomas Klimoski--Roll By Inspection



amination. We had several members participate that had not done so in our in-person contests at division meetings. This may be due to not having to print and mount their photos and could simply upload images from their computer or phone.

Each participant's photos will be included in our quarterly online *Timetable* newsletter so they can be recognized for their work by the entire membership. Best of all, these will be viewed as original images, not a "photo of a photo" as was necessary for in-person contests.

Our virtual photo contest was a huge success and enabled members to showcase their photographic skills and - most importantly -- keep our division connected during this forced isolation. If you are interested in doing this in your division, please contact me at [jdatka@mindspring.com](mailto:jdatka@mindspring.com) or 770-772-0457. I can furnish you with the email blast we sent, and the spreadsheet used for tabulating the scores.

*Additional photos on next page.*

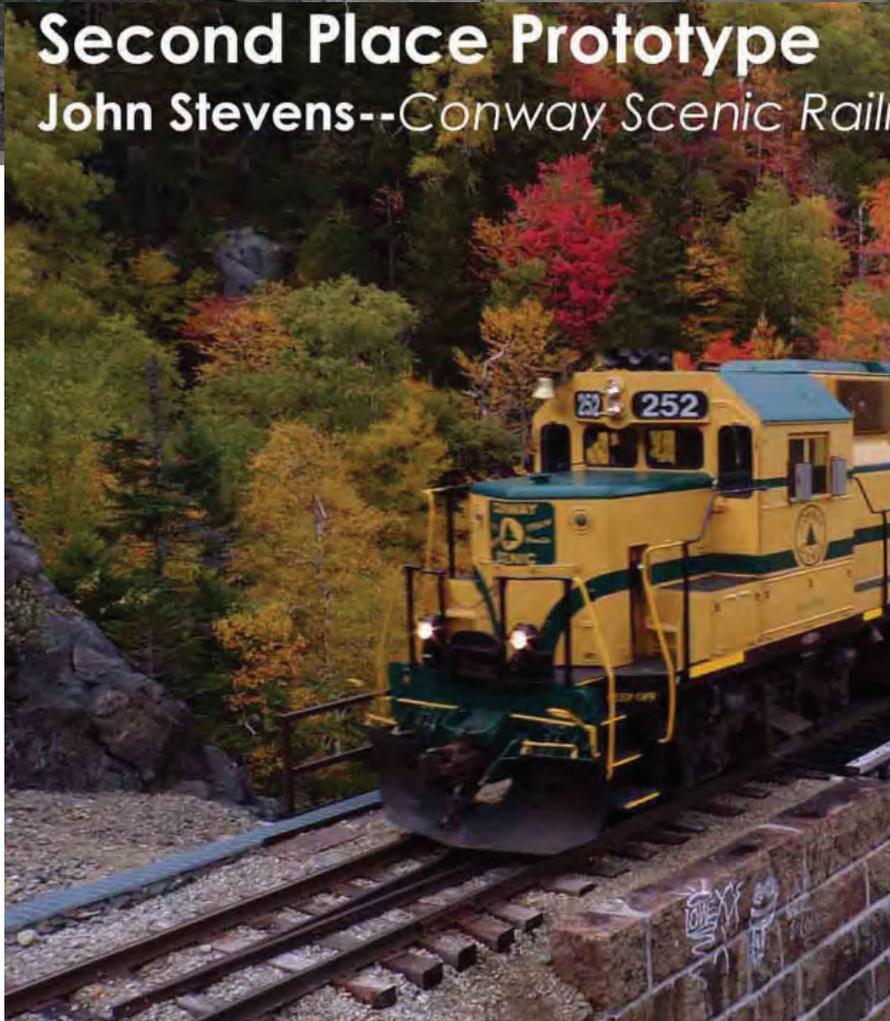
# First Place Prototype

Brian Sandberg--*Durango Roundhouse*



# Second Place Prototype

John Stevens--*Conway Scenic Rail*



# Second Place Model

Paul Schenk--*Waltham Screw Company*



road





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.

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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](mailto:randallwatson1@bellsouth.net).

## Rails By The Bay – NMRA 2021 National Convention July 4-11, 2021

[www.nmra2021.com](http://www.nmra2021.com)

- Educational focus on prototype modeling and technology
- Over 100 terrific clinics
- World-class Bay Area live entertainment
- Extensive operating sessions
- Host hotel – Grand Hyatt
- Discover the Bay Area's history and culture
- Niles Canyon multi-day video virtual event—which will retain the name NMRA 2021 Rails By The Bay—is under development.
- Niles Canyon Camp & Big Trees narrow gauge to ride
- Great local attractions and tours like Santa Cruz mountain wineries, Filoli estate, Levi's Stadium and more

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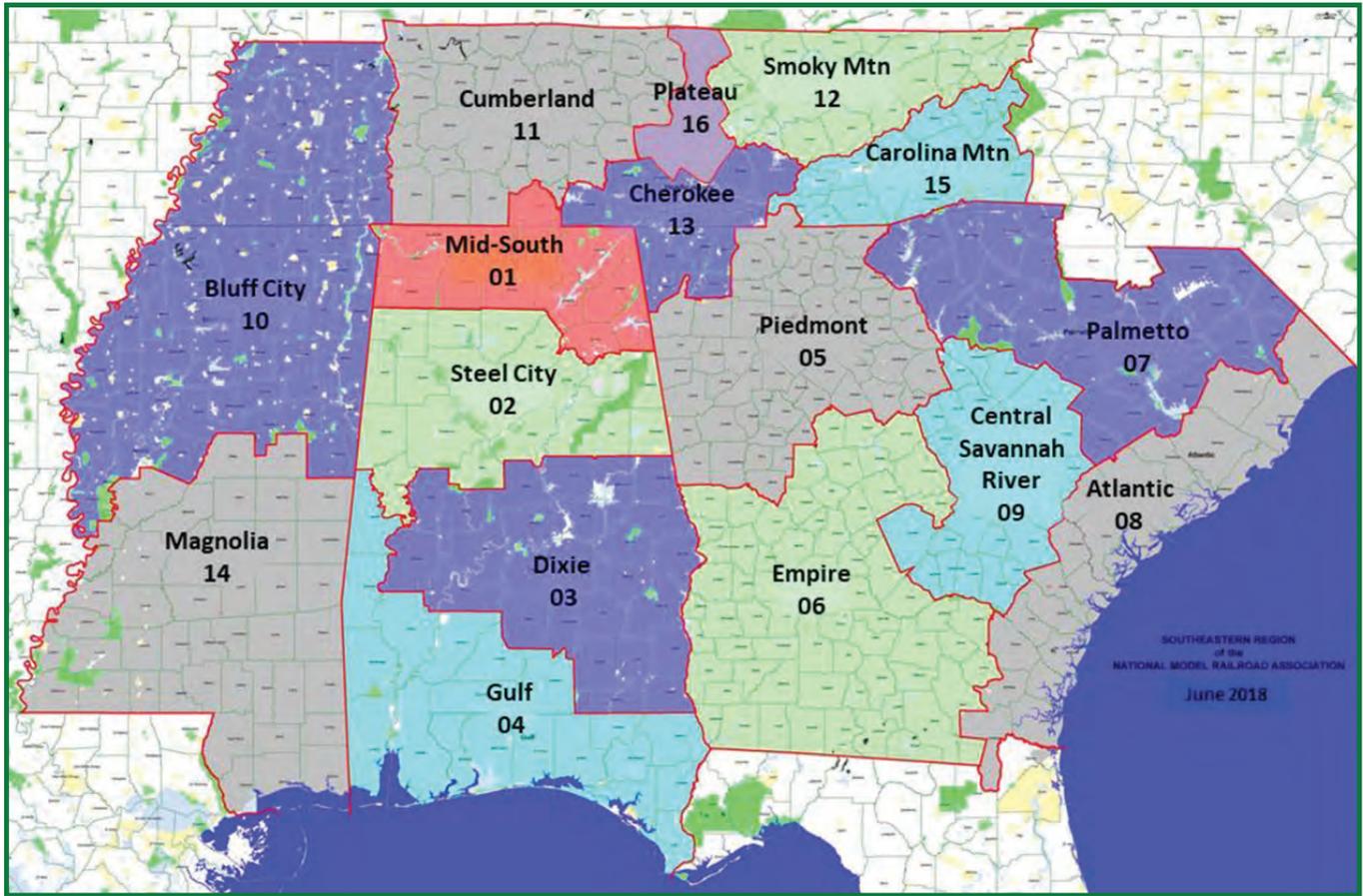
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**Just photos and a  
description of each  
photo is all we need.**

**It can be a completed  
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100 Bridge Dr, Vestavia AL 35242-2826
- 3 Dixie** Brett Scott; 334-799-3096; [davidbrettscott@gmail.com](mailto:davidbrettscott@gmail.com)  
803 Durden Rd, Prattville AL 36067-1534
- 4 Gulf** Reed Ostrander; 850-830-6331; [drostrander@bellsouth.net](mailto:drostrander@bellsouth.net)  
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- 8 Atlantic** David Toll; 845-489-5795; [toll.david@gmail.com](mailto:toll.david@gmail.com)  
6001 S Kings Hwy, Myrtle Beach SC 29575-4965
- 9 Central Savannah River** Andy Chandler; 706-495-5302; [andyhandler71@gmail.com](mailto:andyhandler71@gmail.com)  
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- 14 Magnolia** Pat McCarthy; 601-955-0510; [maccars@gmx.com](mailto:maccars@gmx.com)  
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- 16 Plateau** Tom Shallcross; 931-484-7565; [chipmonk4@comcast.net](mailto: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. If your club that is accepting new members or visitors, please send the information to the **Editor** at: [SouthErneR@ejpj.com](mailto: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](http://www.coastalrailbuffs.org)  
**Charleston Area Model Railroad Club**, Citadel Mall in Charleston, SC  
Tom Kabele, [tkabele@sc.rr.com](mailto:tkabele@sc.rr.com); [www.camrc.club](http://www.camrc.club)  
**Grand Strand MRRC**, Myrtle Beach Mall, North Myrtle Beach, SC  
Joe Corsetti, 843-236-9148, [yruoslo728@aol.com](mailto:yruoslo728@aol.com); [www.gsmrrc.org](http://www.gsmrrc.org)  
**Golden Isles Model Railroad Club**, Brunswick, GA  
Helio Valdes, 912-261-2478; [t29b52f4@comcast.net](mailto:t29b52f4@comcast.net)  
[groups.yahoo.com/group/GIMRRC](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GIMRRC)  
**Sun City Model RR Club**, Bluffton, SC  
President [paul.henry.sc@gmail.com](mailto:paul.henry.sc@gmail.com)

## Bluff City Division 10

**The Memphis N-Scale Road Railers**  
**The Memphis Society of Model Engineers - The 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Night Group**  
Highland St Church of Christ, 7:30 PM  
contact Ned for additional info; [nssavage@juno.com](mailto:nssavage@juno.com)

## Central Savannah R Division 9

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

## Cumberland Division 11

**Mid-South Live Steamers**, Columbia, TN, Hank Sherwood, 615-665-0512  
[www.midsouthlivesteamers.org](http://www.midsouthlivesteamers.org); [midsouthlivesteamers@yahoo.com](mailto:midsouthlivesteamers@yahoo.com)  
**Nashville NTRAK**, Nashville, TN, Mike Curtis, 615-479-7663  
4900 Rucker Christiana Road, Christiana, TN 37037  
[macurtis@comcast.net](mailto:macurtis@comcast.net); [www.nashvillentrak.org](http://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](mailto:terry.bebout@earthlink.net); [www.tcry.org](http://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](http://www.mgbrr.org)  
**Wiregrass Steel Wheels Sub-Division**, Dothan, AL  
Dan Adams, 334-588-3312; [danielma522@centurytel.net](mailto: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  
Bill Attaway, 478-954-9200; [mgmrc@cox.net](mailto:mgmrc@cox.net); [www.mgmrc.org](http://www.mgmrc.org)  
**MGRA - Middle Georgia RR Association**, Bill Jones  
[wrijones845@aol.com](mailto:wrijones845@aol.com); [middlegeorgiarailroadassociation.com](http://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](mailto:foleymuseum@gulftel.com)  
**CATT - Costal Alabama T-TRAK**, Bruce Arbo, 228-669-6705  
[costalalabamattrak@gmail.com](mailto:costalalabamattrak@gmail.com); [www.nationalt-traklayout.com](http://www.nationalt-traklayout.com)  
**Emerald Coast Garden Ry Club**, Jack Grill, 850-994-7226; [www.ecgrc.com](http://www.ecgrc.com)  
Usually meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> 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  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month @ 1 p.m.; [Gasamuel@aol.com](mailto:Gasamuel@aol.com)  
**Miracle Strip Model RR Club**, Shalimar, FL  
Ray Follacchio, 850-865-8822  
**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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.wfrm.org)

## Cherokee Division 13

**Chattanooga Society of Model Engineers**, Dunlap, TN  
Andy Morrison, 423-344-8502; [www.csme-eprr.com](http://www.csme-eprr.com)  
**Chattanooga Modular Modelers, Inc.** meet Monday & Thursday at 6:30 pm  
Mark McAllister, 423-424-0352; [www.chattmodmod.org](http://www.chattmodmod.org)  
**Tennessee Valley Model Railroaders, Inc.**, Chattanooga, TN  
Steve Crowe, 423-443-1517; [www.TVMRI.org](http://www.TVMRI.org)

## Carolina Mountain Division 15

**Apple Valley Model Railroad Club**, Hendersonville, NC  
Located in Hendersonville Station; [www.avmrc.net](http://www.avmrc.net)

**French Broad e'N'pire NTRAK Club**, Henderson, NC  
Chuck Place, 828-685-2726; [hmp3@blueridge.net](mailto:hmp3@blueridge.net); [www.fdr-ntrak.com](http://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  
Nils Larsen, 601-432-4500; [www.cmmra.org](http://www.cmmra.org)  
**Mississippi Coast Model RR Museum**, 504 Pass Rd, Gulfport, MS 39507  
228-284-5731; [timetrain54@yahoo.com](mailto:timetrain54@yahoo.com); [www.mcmrcm.org](http://www.mcmrcm.org)

## Mid-South Division 1

**Northeast Alabama Model Railroad Club**, Guntersville, AL  
Charles Dick, 205-878-2537; [charlesdick@bellsouth.net](mailto:charlesdick@bellsouth.net)  
**Redstone Model Railroad Club**, Huntsville, AL; [www.mrrc.net](http://www.mrrc.net)  
**Coosa Valley Model RR Assoc.** [www.coosavalleymodelrailroad.com](http://www.coosavalleymodelrailroad.com)

## Palmetto Division 7

**Associated Model Railroads of Columbia (AMROC)**, Columbia, SC  
Clark Gregory, 803-781-7912; [www.amroc.org](http://www.amroc.org)  
**Carolina Railroad Heritage Association, Inc.;**  
[www.facebook.com/hubcityrrmuseum](http://www.facebook.com/hubcityrrmuseum)  
**Central Railway Model and Historical Association (CRM&HA)**, Central, SC  
Sandy Eistus, 513-325-8850; [www.crmha.org](http://www.crmha.org)  
**Piedmont N' Southern, Greenville, SC**  
Michael Offik, 864-884-2165; [www.piedmontsouthern.org](http://www.piedmontsouthern.org)  
**The Carolina Conspiracy** (On30 modular) Andrew Gillette, 803-316-8128  
[arn\\_a\\_gillette@yahoo.com](mailto:arn_a_gillette@yahoo.com); [groups.yahoo.com/group/carolina\\_on30conspiracy](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/carolina_on30conspiracy)  
**Station 187 Model Railroad Club**, Greer, SC; [www.station187.net](http://www.station187.net)

## Piedmont Divison 5

**Atlanta Interlocking Model Railroad Club**  
Charlie Crawford, 770-565-1845  
**Athens Bend Track Railroad Club**  
Peter Wood, 706-215-3313; [www.facebook.com/AthensBendTrack](http://www.facebook.com/AthensBendTrack)  
**Atlantic Coast S-Gaugers**, Bob Lacheen  
home 770-578-9937; cell 404-431-8032; [www.trainweb.org/acsg](http://www.trainweb.org/acsg)  
**Boomers**, John Rieken, Saturday a.m.; OPS Athens, Gwinnett, Commerce areas  
email for specific dates; [jrieken@windstream.net](mailto:jrieken@windstream.net)  
**Chattahoochee Express Operating Group**, Chris White, 770-594-2618  
**Country RRoads Modular Model Railroad (HO)**, Morris Smith  
[heisler299@gmail.com](mailto:heisler299@gmail.com); [www.CRR-Modular.com](http://www.CRR-Modular.com)  
**Georgia Association of Narrow Gaugers**, Pat Turner, 423-744-0429  
[groups.yahoo.com/group/georgiangaugers](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/georgiangaugers); [GeorgiaNGers@yahogroups.com](mailto:GeorgiaNGers@yahogroups.com)  
**Georgia Garden Railway Society**, Terry Manning, 770-564-8822  
[temanning@aol.com](mailto:temanning@aol.com) [www.ggrs.info](http://www.ggrs.info)  
**Georgia Society of Ferroequinologists**, Marietta  
Bob Hoenes, 770-422-0081; Jasper Roundhouse, Jasper, GA  
Phil Stead, [trainman07@aol.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.nglrc.org) OR [questions@nglrc.org](mailto:questions@nglrc.org)  
**North Georgia Modular**, Jon Cook, 770-993-9620  
**NWGA T-TRAK Club** Kennesaw GA  
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**Tri-State Area Model Railroad, Inc.**  
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**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](mailto:chipmonk4@comcast.net); [www.crossvilletrain.org](http://www.crossvilletrain.org)

## Smoky Mountain Division 12

**Knoxville Area Model Railroaders**, Oak Ridge, TN  
Brad Tutt, 865-776-4703; meetings are 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays  
**Mountain Empire Modular Railroaders**, Johnson City, TN, East TN State Univ.  
George Carter Museum, Dr. Fred Alsop, 423-929-3733; [www.memrr.org](http://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](http://www.smokeycityrails.com)  
**Wrecking Crew Model RR Club**, Birmingham, AL; Jason Parham, 205-534-6529  
**Steel City Shifters Operating Group**, [jstew@bhamrails.info](mailto:jstew@bhamrails.info)

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Southeastern Region, NMRA

782 Jays Way

Ringgold GA 30736-8954

