



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

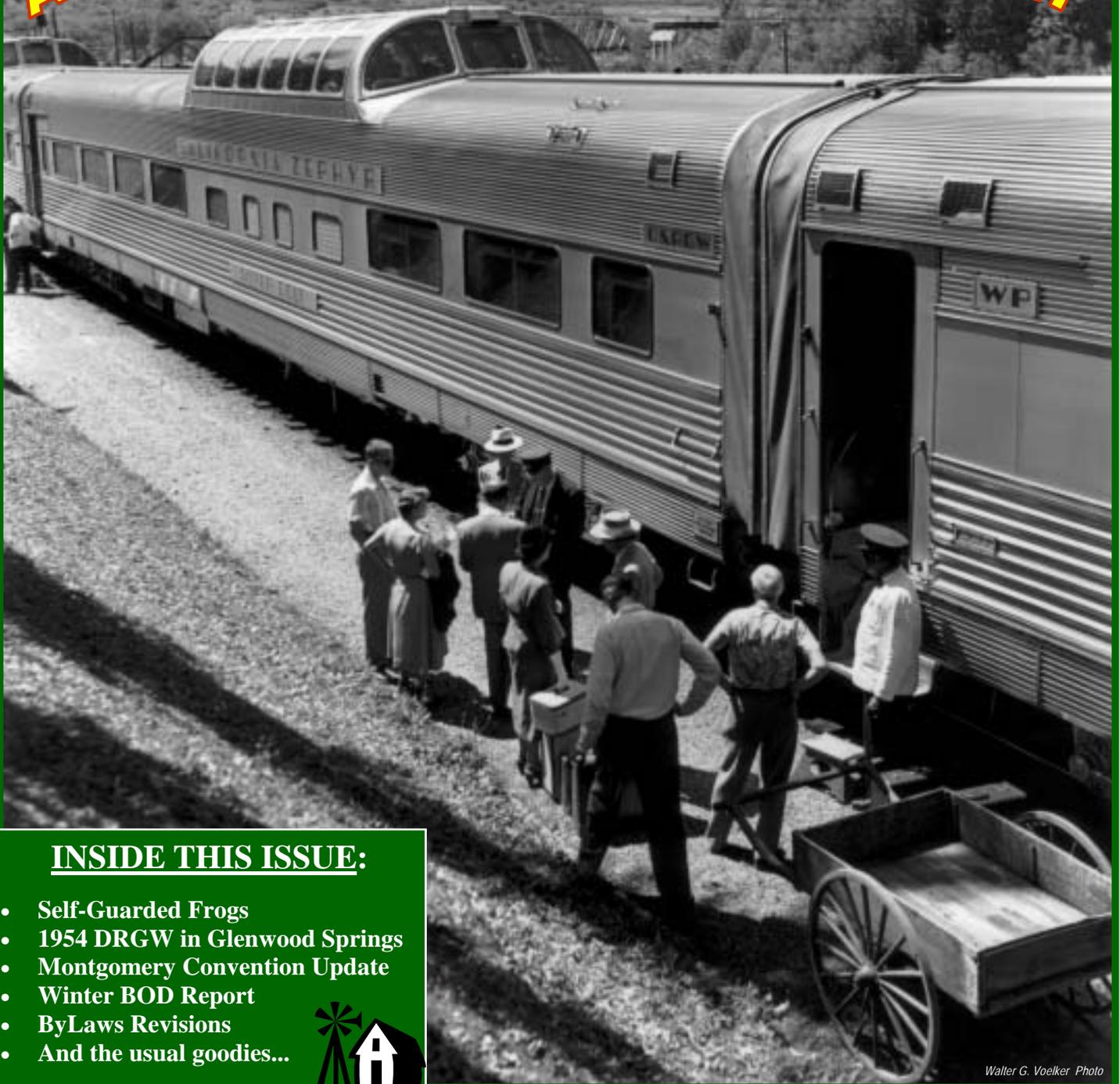
*The* **SOUTHERNER**



Volume 46, Number 2.5 [www.ser-nmra.org](http://www.ser-nmra.org)

Spring 2005

# ALL ABOARD FOR MONTGOMERY



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Self-Guarded Frogs
- 1954 DRGW in Glenwood Springs
- Montgomery Convention Update
- Winter BOD Report
- ByLaws Revisions
- And the usual goodies...



Walter G. Voelker Photo






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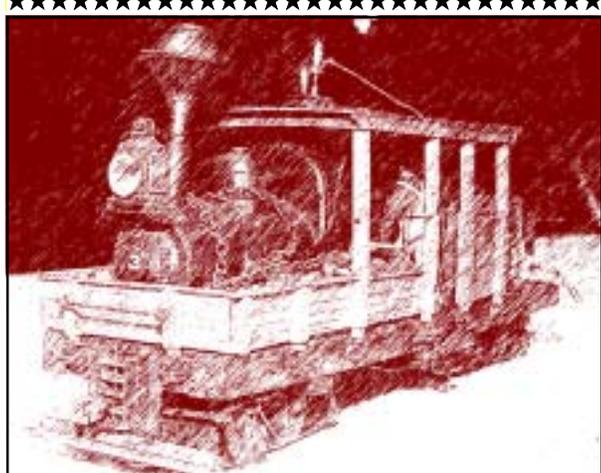
**Tuesday-Thursday 11-7**  
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 (Closed Monday)



Three G.I.s cruising down the track behind a passenger train on the 42 inch gauged Newfoundland Railway in Newfoundland, Canada in the summer of 1951.

## A. P. Awards

Association Volunteer  
 Scott G. Perry  
 Master Builder—Cars  
 Charlie Crawford





The

# SOUTHERNER



## WAYBILL

Volume 46, Number 2.5



Spring—2005

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

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### Deadlines For Submission

**Summer '05 (Jul) - June 1, 2005**

Fall 2005 (Oct) - Sept. 1, 2005

Winter 2006 (Jan) - Dec. 1, 2005

Spring 2005 (Apr) - Mar. 1, 2005

The SouthErner is mailed to all members of the Southeastern Region who have paid their membership dues of \$10.00 annually. Material for publication is welcomed! Please send materials to the proper Assistant Editor.

All submissions become the property of the SouthErner unless otherwise contracted. Please do not send previously printed materials.

**ON THE FRONT COVER:** An eastbound DRGW California Zephyr is seen being boarded at Glenwood Springs, CO in the summer of 1954. In the foreground is the Silver Colt, one of several dome coaches that made up this train and allowed the passengers to take in the dramatic scenery in Glenwood Canyon. More photos of this train starting on page 50.

### ADVERTISING

Page Size	Number of Issues			
	1	2	3	4
Full	\$120	\$240	\$360	\$400
3/4	\$ 90	\$180	\$270	\$300
1/2	\$ 60	\$120	\$180	\$200
1/4	\$ 30	\$ 60	\$ 90	\$100
1/8	\$ 15	\$ 30	\$ 45	\$ 60
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## Self-Guarded Frogs (The Other Kind of Frog)

By: Paul V. Voelker

About one half of all the turnouts used in this country are of the Self-Guarded Frog type. What is a “Self-Guarded Frog”? Well, it is a frog that doesn't need guard rails to protect it!

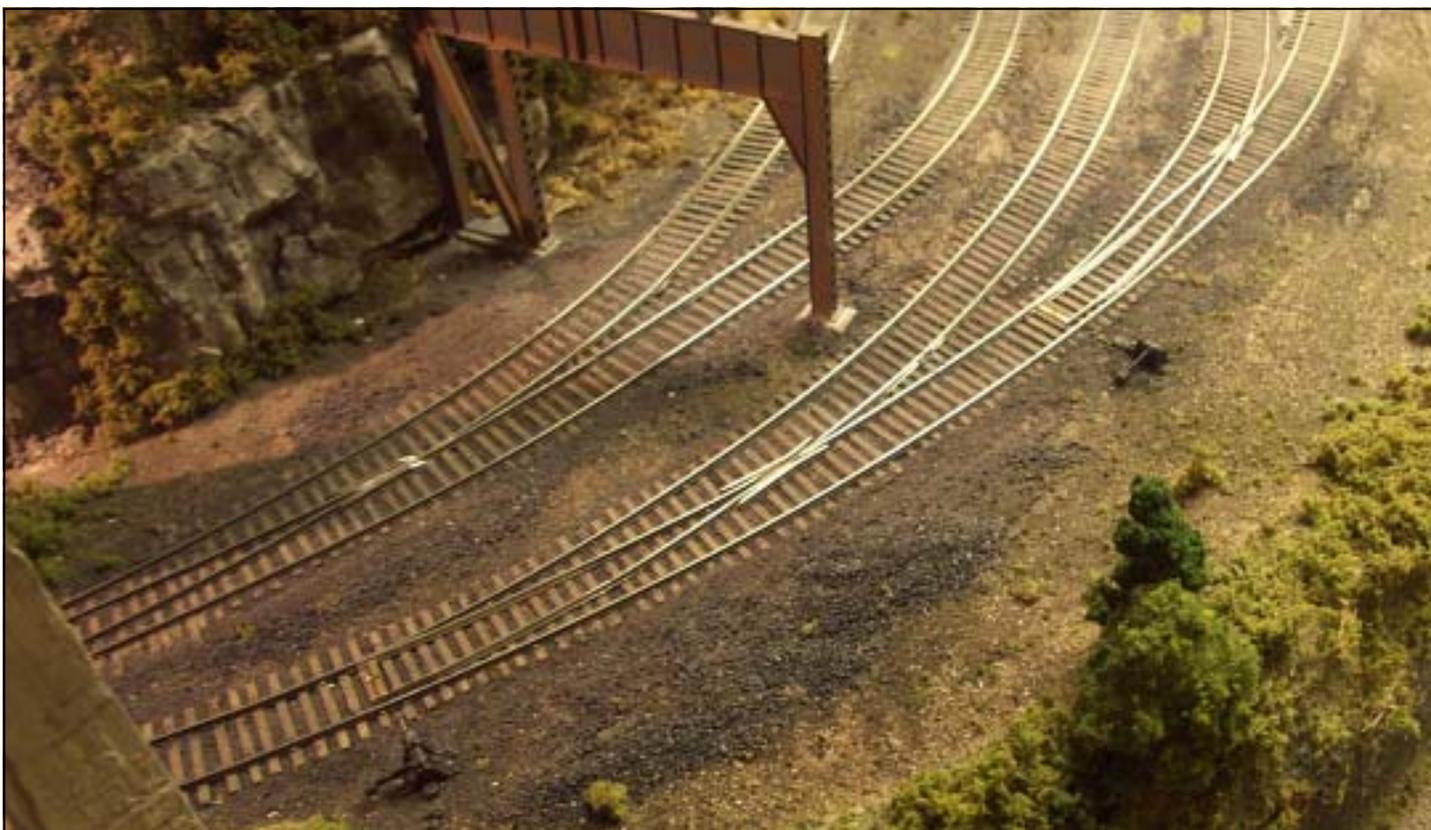
That is the easy answer anyway. The frog casting itself contains the “guard” portion which is built into the frog's design. It is a raised section of the casting that works against the outside and inside of one wheel rather than the backside of one wheel and the other wheel's flange as in a regular turnout's frog and guard rail combination. Because of its design, it is relegated to low speed applications only, so it would be found in a yard or industrial area but not out on the mainline. But it is much easier to build because all of the critical dimensions are part of the frog's casting—at least on the prototype anyway!

In the modeling world it isn't so easy to build one of these puppies! For one thing, in the prototype, all wheels have the same width. They are ALL a certain dimension wide and the flange contour is the same

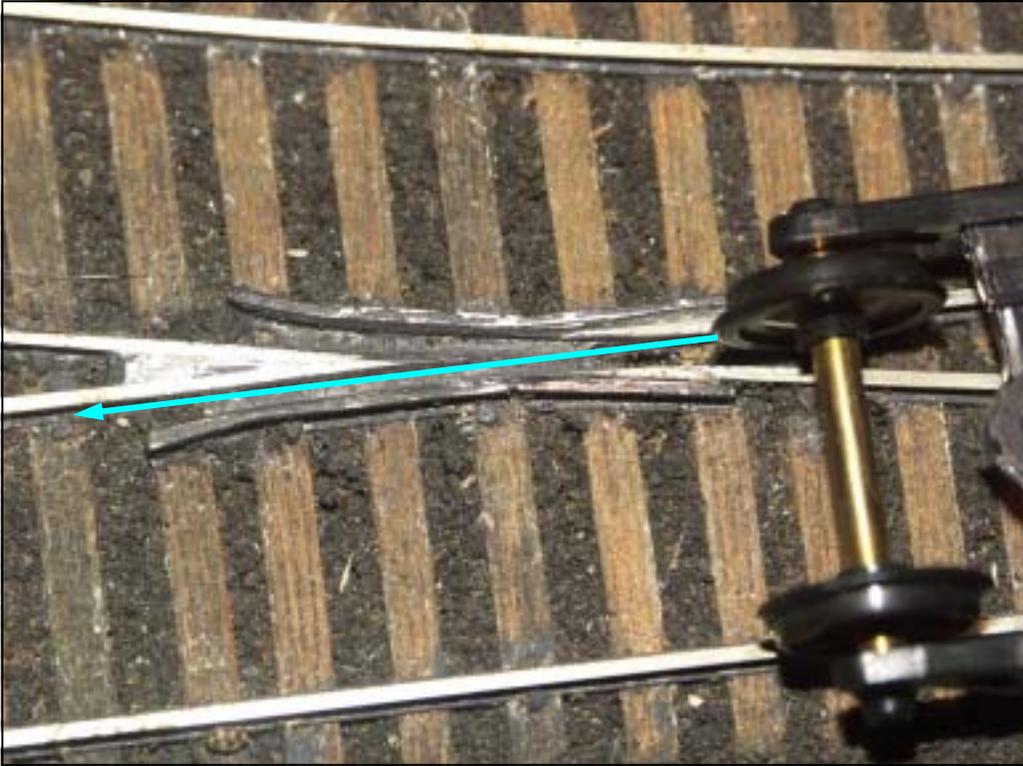
whereas in the modeling world there is the RP25 standard and then a whole bunch of other non-standard widths & contours depending on which manufacturer's wheels you are talking about or which scale standards you are talking about (i.e. Proto 87 verses RP25 HO).

A self-guarded frog built to run Proto 87 wheels will not be wide enough to accept RP25 HO wheels. Conversely, a self-guarded frog built to RP25 HO standards will not “self-guard” a Proto 87 wheel. Herein lies the problem for the modeling community and this is the main reason you will not find many examples of this type of turnout in our hobby. There are exceptions however, and the photos shown here are some of them. I have built self-guarded frogs in both Proto 87 and standard HO. Both types are very reliable but they are not interchangeable.

The Proto 87 self-guarded frog was a bear to build whereas the standard HO version was much easier due to the size of rail I was using. This turned out to be a lucky accident. Using code 83 for the running rails and code 100 for the guard-portion results in the correct spacing of the guard portion from the frog point if the base of both rails just touch. The only major problem is that the code 100 rail is really too tall for this application. We found that type B drop equal-

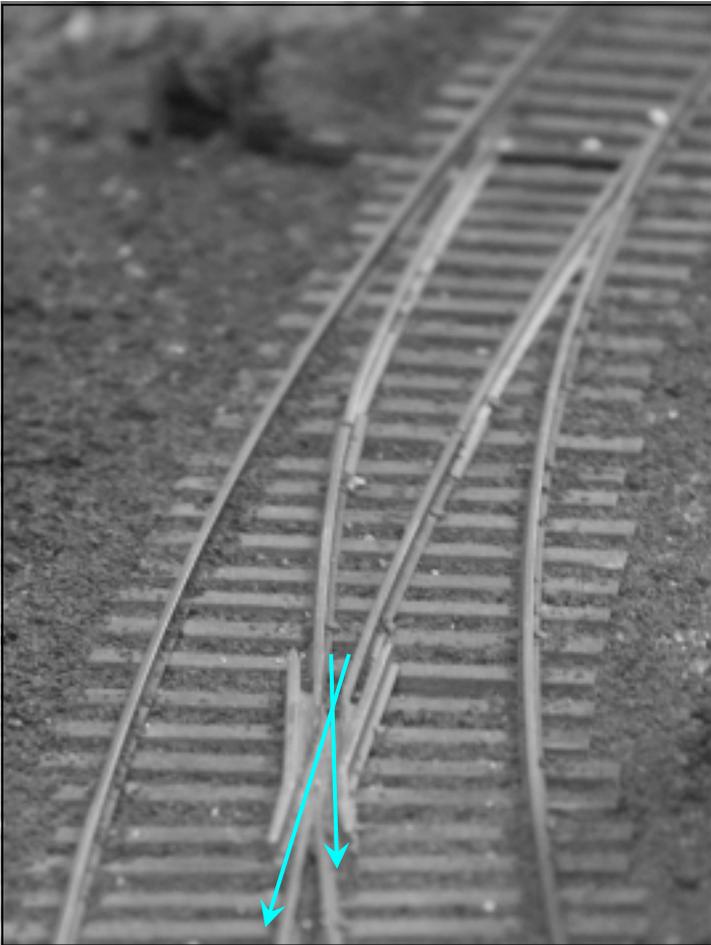


**Above** Three of the four Self-Guarded Frog type turnouts in the town Trauger that service Richard Mine #1 on John Travis' Johnstown & Gerryville Railroad. These turnouts were built about 12 years ago and have operated almost flawlessly during John's many operating sessions. These are all built to accommodate RP25 wheels only. Wheels with a narrower overall width won't self-guard correctly and may derail on these frogs.



**Above** A turnout with a Self-Guarded Frog built to Proto 87 standards. This frog will only accommodate Proto 87 wheels, not RP25 wheels which will literally jump over the frog with potentially disastrous results. Arrow shows path of wheel flange through frog.

A prototype Self-Guarded Frog turnout. Note the similarity to the model shown below. Arrows show path of wheel flange through frog. On page 9 are photos of a NS Dash 9-40CW passing over this turnout.



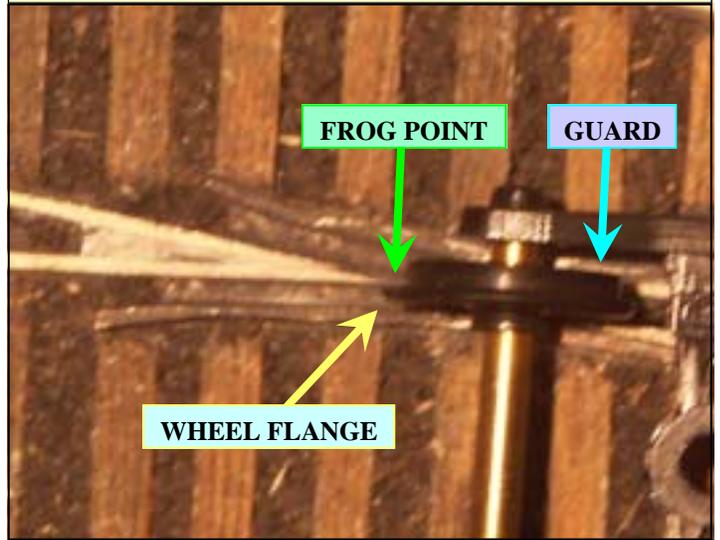
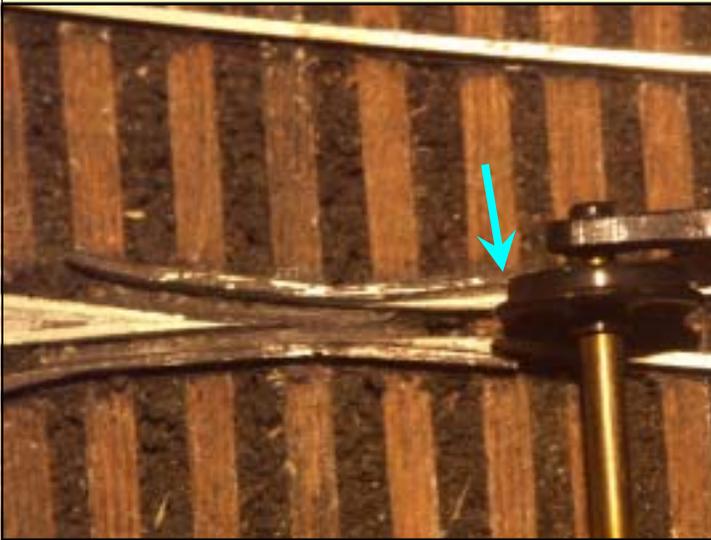
A Self-Guarded Frog turnout built to accommodate RP25 wheels. The arrows show the path a wheel's flange would follow when traveling through this type of turnout. Compare this photo to the one above and at right.



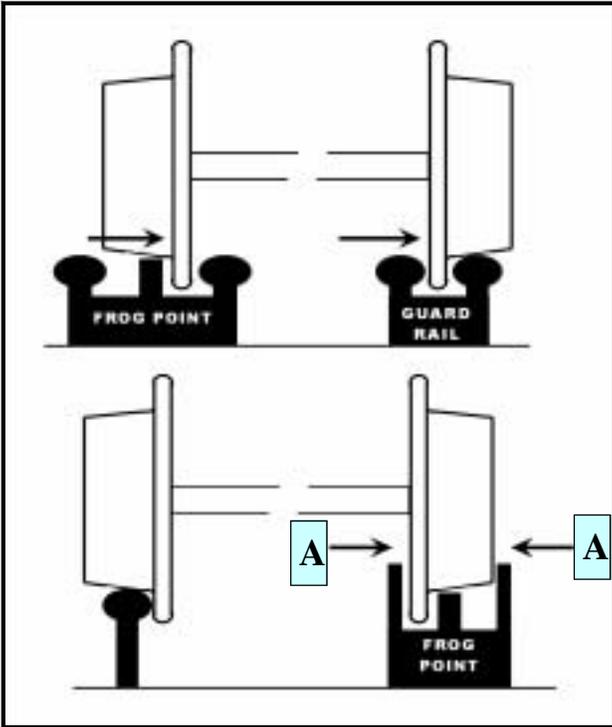
Raised point guard on outside of rail.

1. As the wheel approaches the frog, the raised guard section (arrow) starts to push the outside of the wheel towards the inside of the track and away from the point of the frog.

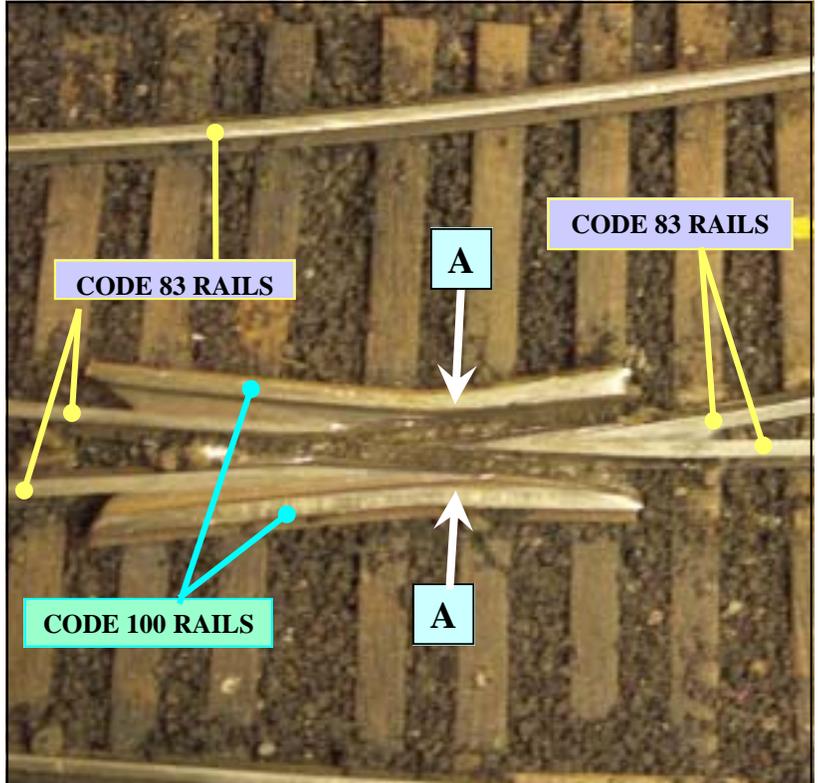
2. The wheel then continues on with the flange being guided away from the frog's point by the pressure applied to the outside face of the wheel by the raised guard section of the frog.



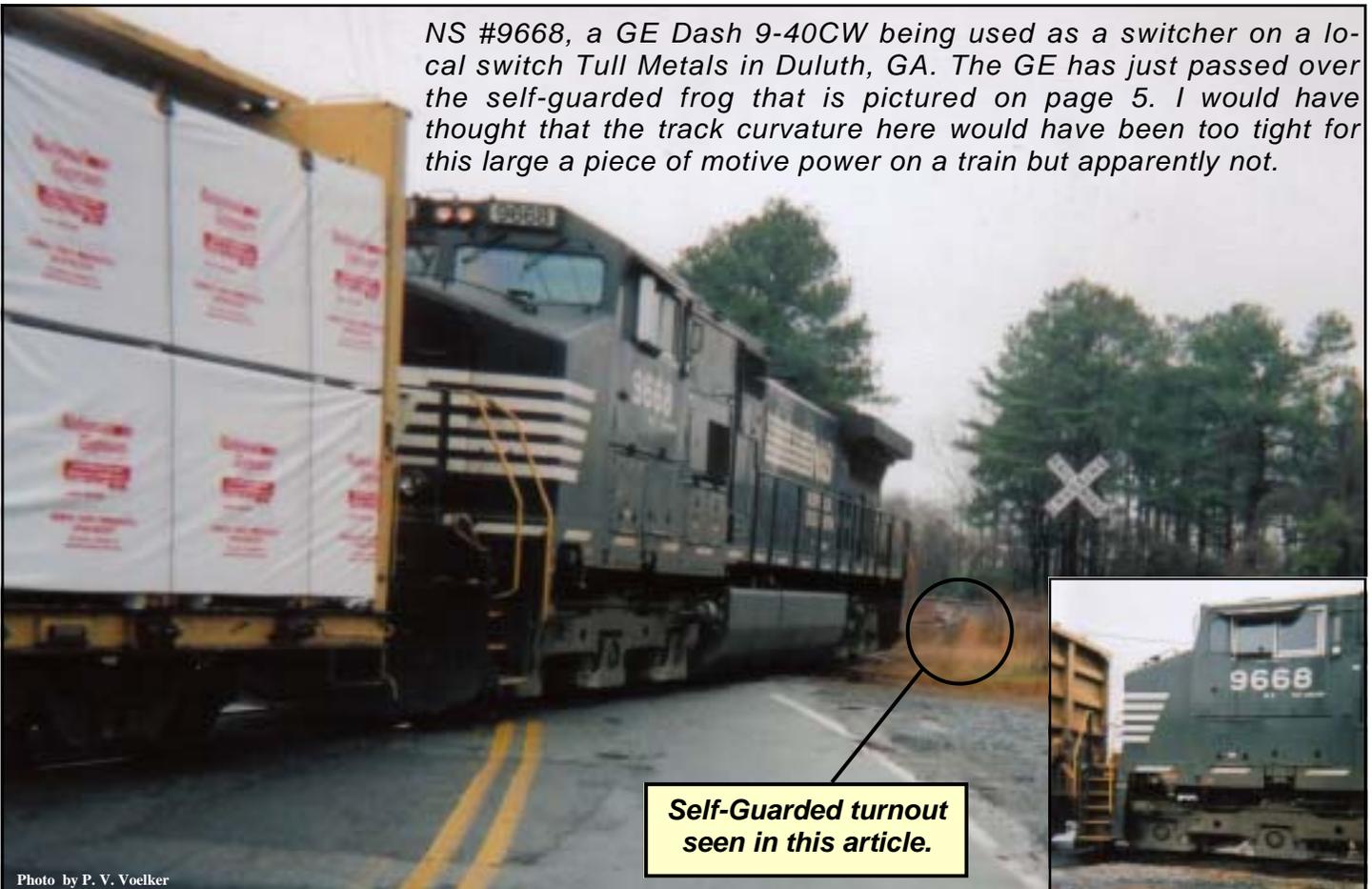
**Above Left & Right** This is a prototype self-guarded frog as seen from the leading (left) & trailing (right) ends. This is a single casting that the rails leading to it are simply bolted to. The only other critical part of this turnout is the switch points and the point-throw mechanism.



The upper drawing shows how the guard rails & wing rails protect the frog point and guide the flange away from it in a regular turnout. The lower drawing shows how the guard parts of a Self-Guarded frog protect the frog point and guide the flange away from it.



**Above** This is the critical dimension area (A) shown by the arrows, in this case built for an RP25 width wheel.. This spacing has to be just wider than the width of the wheel.



NS #9668, a GE Dash 9-40CW being used as a switcher on a local switch Tull Metals in Duluth, GA. The GE has just passed over the self-guarded frog that is pictured on page 5. I would have thought that the track curvature here would have been too tight for this large a piece of motive power on a train but apparently not.

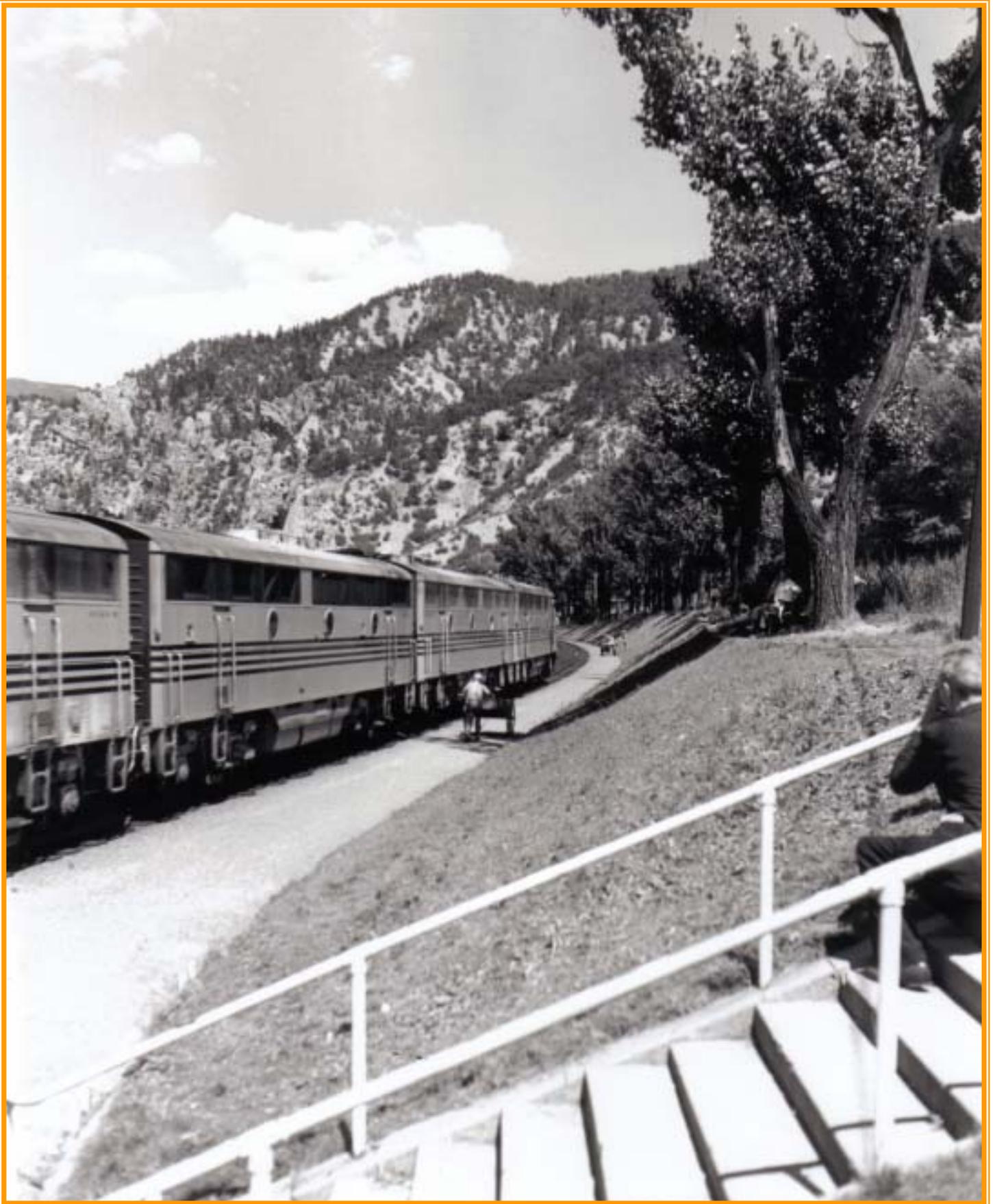
**Self-Guarded turnout seen in this article.**

Photo by P. V. Voelker

# CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR AT GLENWOOD SPRINGS



A DRGW F3 ABBA consist with #5524 leading a California Zephyr consist of Dome Coaches pulls into Glenwood Springs, CO in June of 1954. This photo and the following 4 pages show the train being boarded at the station. Dome Coaches Silver Bronco (DRGW), Silver Colt (DRGW) & Silver Scout (WP) are in the train. All photos were taken by Walter G. Voelker, Jr.



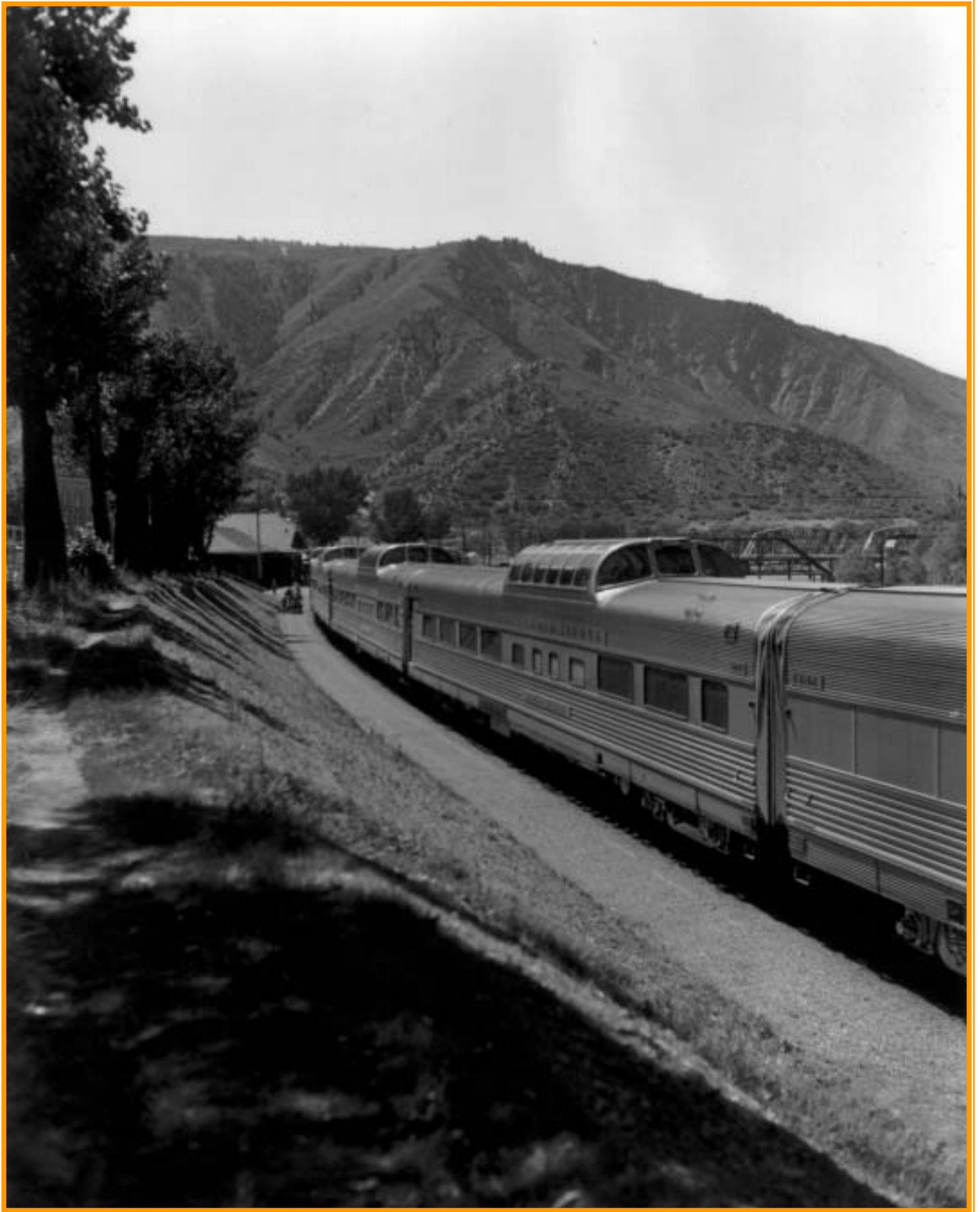
DRGW F3A #5524 leads an A-B-B-A consist with a California Zephyr set of Dome Cars. The train is arriving at Glenwood Springs, CO in June of 1954. Man crouched on the right is Walter G. Voelker, Sr. His son, Walter Jr. took this series of photos.



DRGW Dome Coach *Silver Bronco* At Glenwood Springs, CO June 1954



DRGW Dome Coach *Silver Colt* loading passengers at Glenwood Springs, CO June 1954



WP Dome Coach *Silver Scout* At Glenwood Springs, CO June 1954



An EMC FT A-B-B-A set with DRGW #5454 in the lead passes Glenwood Springs Station with a freight in tow and a pusher many cars back. June 1954



An L-131 pusher #3613 shoves on the rear of the train lead by EMC FT DRGW #5454. Photo was taken just east of the station in Glenwood Springs, CO on a late afternoon in June 1954.



DRGW L-131 class #3613 with a caboose trailing pushes its way past the platform eastbound at Glenwood Springs, CO on a late afternoon in June 1954

# PIEDMONT DIVISION TRAINSHOW



Well, we had another successful Piedmont Division Trainshow this past March. Attendance appears to be 1900+ paid participants plus an unknown number of "Under 12" attendees. And there was a lot for those Under-12's to look at too!

First off was the "Kid's Operating Train Layout", built by division members primarily to allow the kids themselves to "get the feel" of what it is like to run a train on their own. The layout was built to stand only a couple of feet off of the floor thus being at "just the right height" for the very young.

This is the fifth year we have had it in operation and it has been very well received by parents & kids alike. There are three operating stations with throttle controllers operating 3 individual loops. There are also push buttons located around the perimeter that when pushed, operate various accessories such as a back & forth handcar, an airplane, a watchman's shack, signal lights, etc.. Plexiglas panels keep the trains on the layout from falling off onto the floor.





Another big attraction for the kids is the Lego Layout provided by the **North Georgia Lego Train Club**. Lego has certainly come a long way since I was a kid!

Buildings, trains, tracks, ships, planes, people and all made from Lego Building Blocks. Truly amazing!

Also provided by the club is an area where kids can assemble and generally play with an assortment of Lego blocks. This keeps younger kids content for hours & can be a lot of fun for adults too.

The trains themselves race around the track at breakneck speeds whizzing here and there. This really is an all-inclusive hobby, I mean trains are trains regardless of scale, or tinplate, or Lego, or Live Steam, or whatever. It is the very subject itself that brings us all together. Check out the Lego club at:

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



Also at the show was a Playschool-style layout with push'em type trains that I remember well from my childhood. This setup has a larger variety of parts available now than when I was growing up.

More things to do and more interesting accessories. The interlocking, grooved track sections can be assembled in a wide variety of configurations only limited by a child's imagination and their parents finances!





The Marietta Daily Journal sent out one of their star reporters, a Rene Brock, to do a story on the show which appeared in the paper on the day after the show, March 14th, a Monday. Upon hearing that a reporter was present in the building, I felt incumbent upon myself to record the MDJ reporter doing her job of reporting on the show itself. Here you see the reporter in action. By the way, her camera was a lot bigger than mine!



# Marietta Daily Journal

March 14, 2005 12 pages \$2.00  
Cobb's Local News Source Since 1888 #1208 per yr. 71 # 10.00



## TRACKING THE TRAINS

Staff photos by Rene Brock





One of the truly awesome layouts on display was this On30 layout constructed from modules built by Steve Austin, Frank Hull & Larry Atkins.

**Above-** The view through the trees, with the trees being slightly out-of-focus really gives one the feeling of actually standing here looking at this scene as an O-scale person would see it. There are so many spots on this layout to photograph that one could spend hours just snapping away pictures left & right and every year they come to the show there is more to see.

On the **right** is a small industrial locomotive seen climbing a hill while above we see a shop area through the trees.





Above is a home-made Wrecking Derrick made from a real variety of parts not unlike some of the strange variations of equipment found on some real lumber railroads of the past.



At left Steve Austin (left), Frank Hull & Ron Gough, MMR are having a conversation (right) while in the foreground sits a Highline Tree & a Stiff-leg Derrick log loader. Below is the ever photogenic (and in the way) Dave Butts with the MDJ reporter in the background (behind his right shoulder) taking pictures of the show.





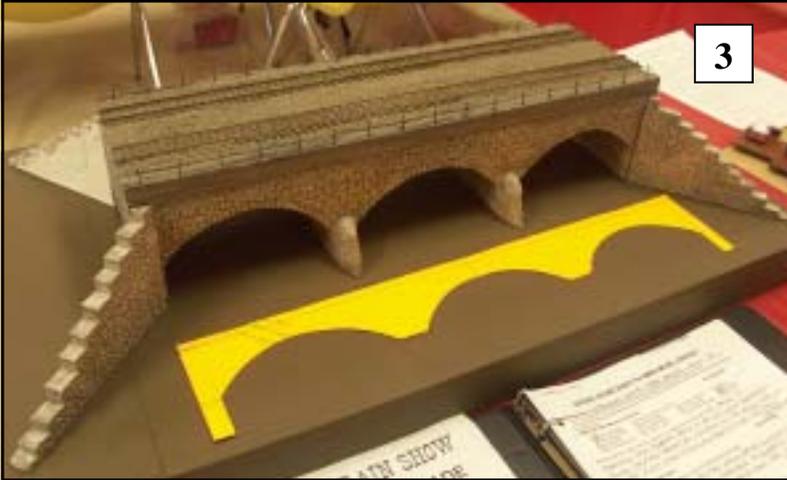


Bob McIntyre

3



3



3



**Model Contest**

Entry #	Name	City	Description	Const.	Detail	Conform	F&L	Scratch	Total	Award
<b>Steam</b>										
11	Daniel E. Boomgarden	Pahrump, NV	C, GB, C&P #3400 2-8-8-0	?	?	7	?	?	42	FIRST
<b>Freight Cars</b>										
9	Regis Brooks	Riverdale	CSX Autorack w/Mer. Benz	7	2	4	2	0	15	FIRST
<b>Caboose</b>										
15	Ovidiu Trifanescu	Atlanta	South. Railways Transfer Cab.	32	15	20	14	6	87	FIRST
10	Regis Brooks	Riverdale	CSX Caboose	6	2	6	5	0	19	SECOND
<b>On-Line Structures</b>										
3	Bob McIntyre	Alpharetta	PRR Stone Arch Bridge	35	9	16	15	14	89	FIRST
8	Regis Brooks	Riverdale	NS Building/Office w/2002 Logo	12	5	7	2	1	27	SECOND
<b>Off-Line Structures</b>										
7	Katrina Devaney	Winder	C&O Four Room Cottage	24	5	18	9	8	64	FIRST
<b>On-Line Displays</b>										
13	Gary D. Farino	Marietta	Pillsbury Packing Plant	30	11	16	7	4	68	FIRST
1	Dan Berman	Marietta	IM Facility "Georgia Southern"	13	5	6	2	2	28	SECOND
2	Dan Berman	Marietta	Bulk Distribution Facility	13	5	6	1	1	26	THIRD
<b>Best of Show</b>										
3	Bob McIntyre	Alpharetta	PRR Stone Arch Bridge							
<b>Display Only</b>										
12	Daniel E. Boomgarden	Pahrump, NV	Northern Pacific #4007 2-8-8-2							

**Photo Contest**

Entry #	Name	City	Description	Award
<b>Color Slide Prototype</b>				
4	Robert Hoenes	Marietta	King George V & B&O Bell	First Place
5	Robert Hoenes	Marietta	6430 Getting a Drink	Second Place
6	Robert Hoenes	Marietta	Coupling the Thunderbird Express	Third Place
<b>Display Only</b>				
14	Ed Laity	Lilburn	Passing Through Ophir	N/A

Photos are numbered by Entry Number in the contest. Those not numbered were not entered.

15



Ovidiu Trifanescu

15



Mike Ferry brought down a bus-load of people from his club in Tennessee. This Golden Spike display was brought down to the trainshow display room by Russ Childs.



Russ Childs

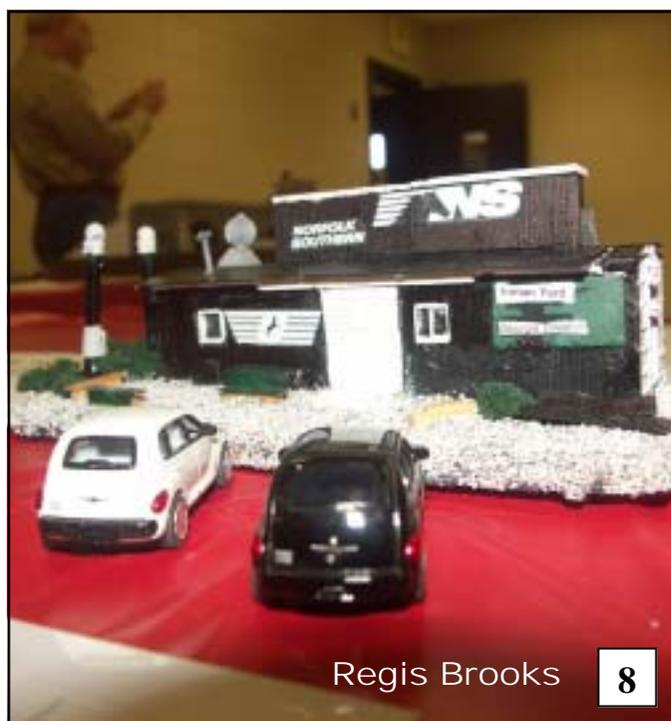


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Regis Brooks

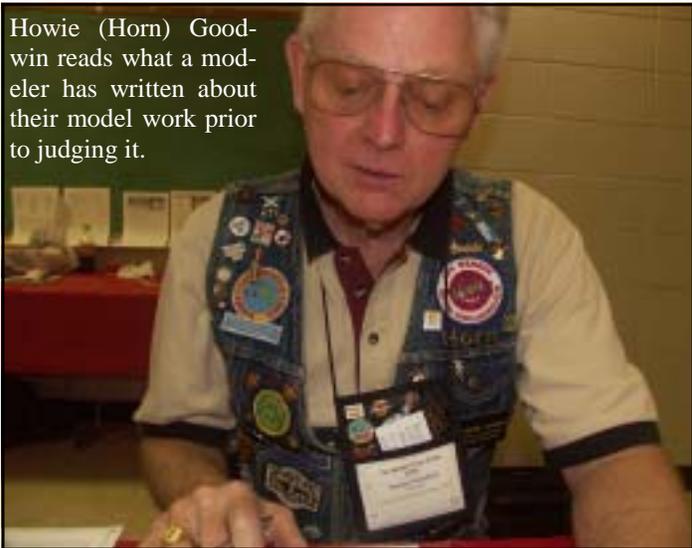


Regis Brooks

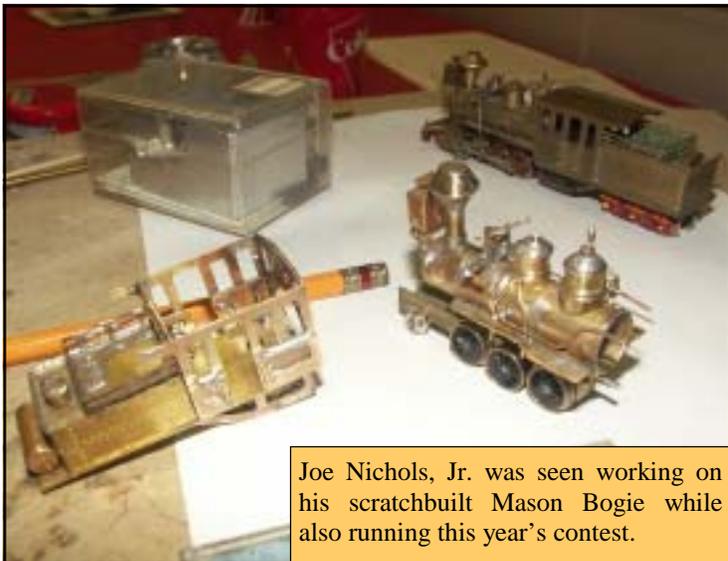
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Katrina Devaney



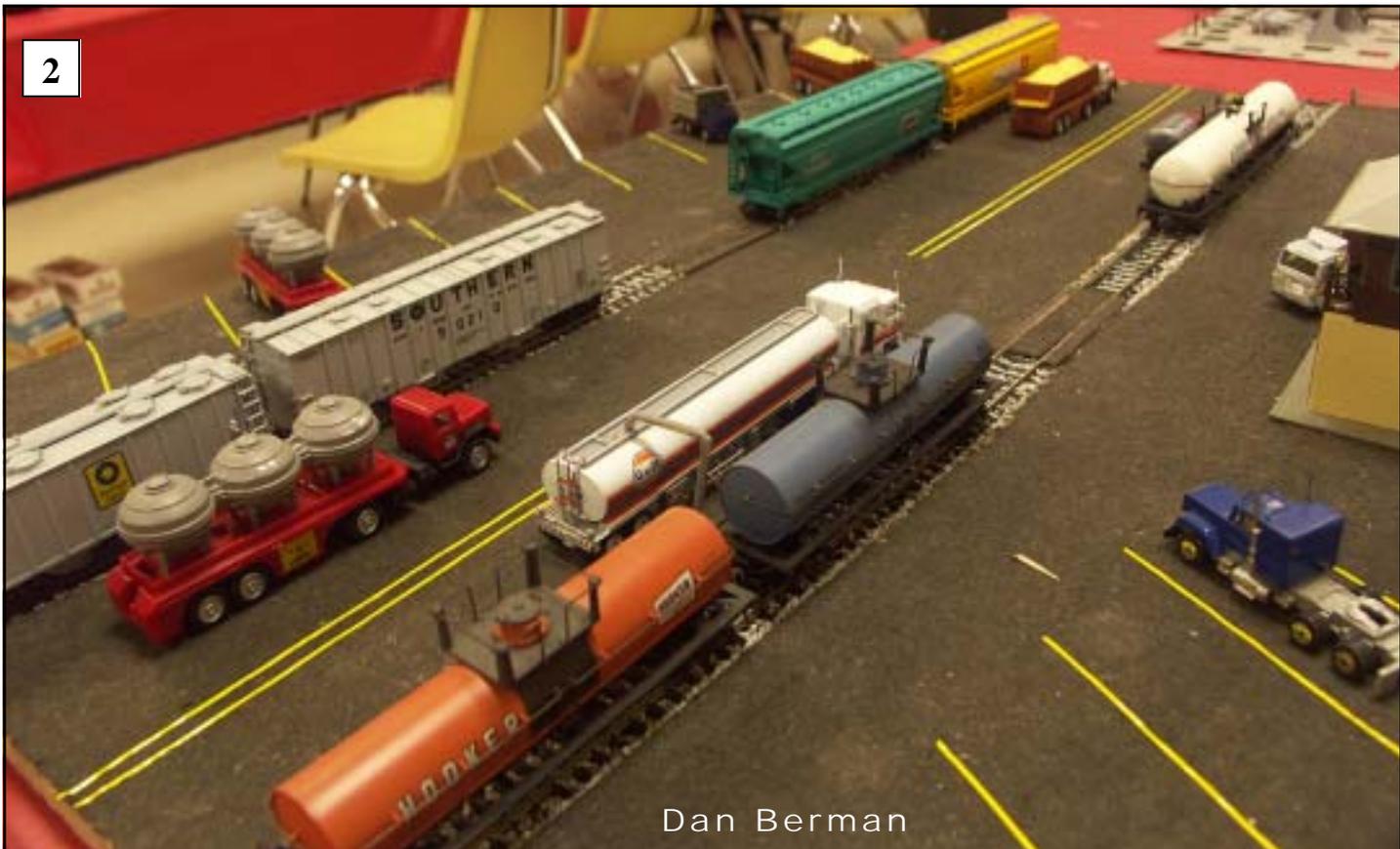
Howie (Horn) Goodwin reads what a modeler has written about their model work prior to judging it.



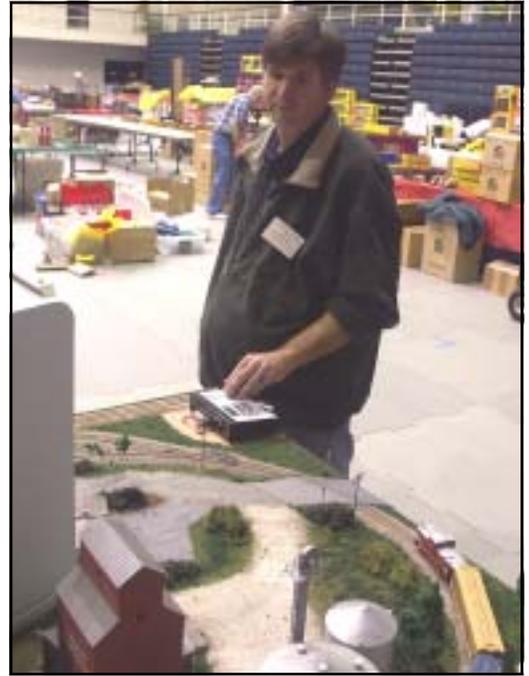
Joe Nichols, Jr. was seen working on his scratchbuilt Mason Bogie while also running this year's contest.



Charlie Crawford's log cabin display—a work in progress.

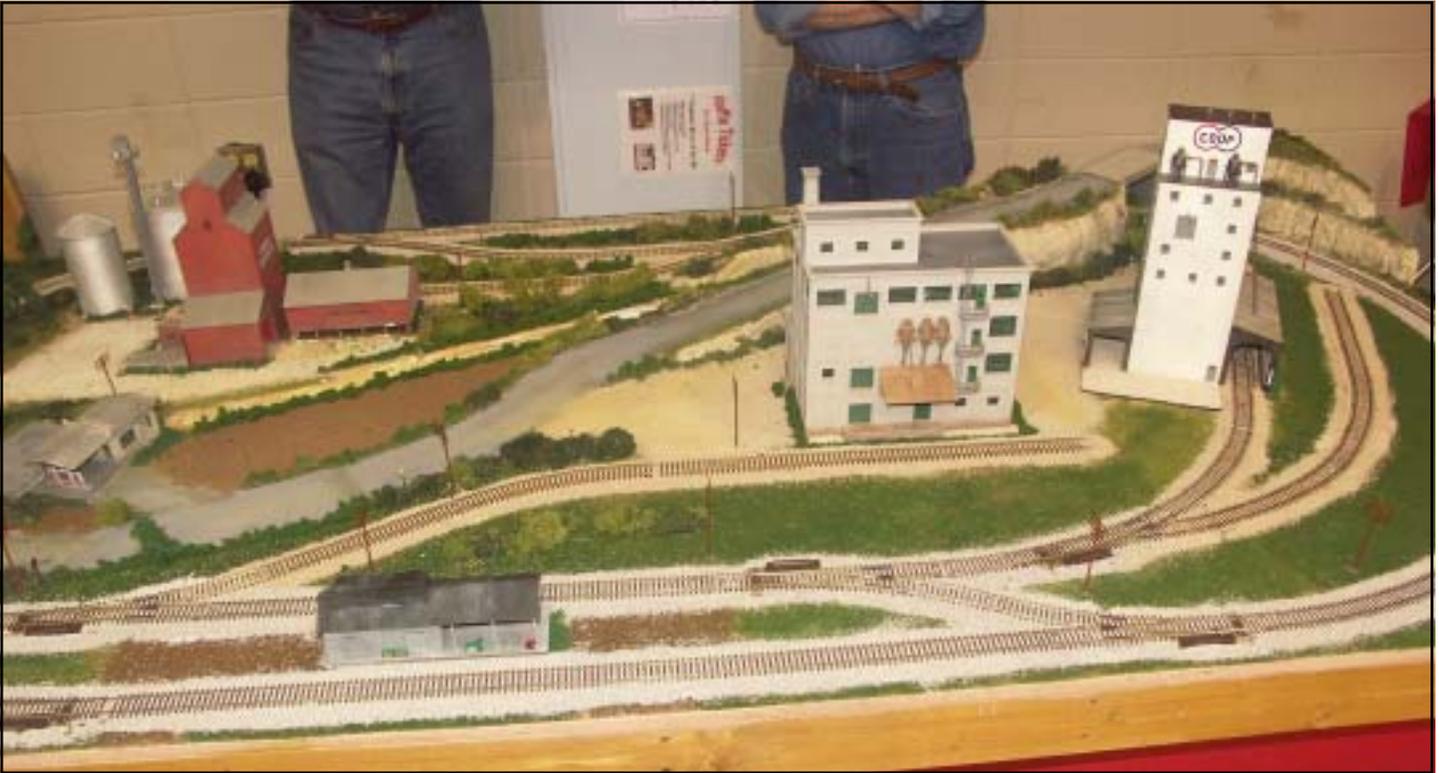


Dan Berman



HEARTLAND AMERICA GRAINCO RAILROAD





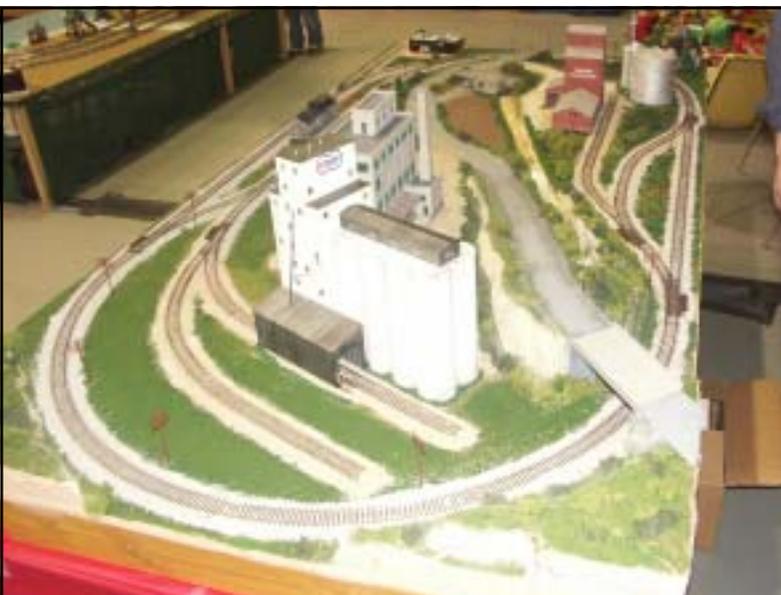
This year's layout was designed and built by **Walter Liles** and was based on a layout design that appeared in a Model Railroader article a few years ago. Walt was helped by a crew of layout & structure builders including **George Bloodworth, Dave Butts, Charlie Crawford, Brian Glock, Joe Liles, Larry Smith & Bob Wheeler.**

***Donations to the project were provided by:***

**DIGITRAK INC.** (Norcross, GA)

**TRAINMASTER MODELS** (Duluth, GA)

**MARIETTA HOBBIES** (Marietta, GA)







# SER Board of Directors Meeting

Chattanooga, TN—FEBRUARY 19, 2005

*Submitted by John Stevens - Secretary*

The following board members were present: President Bob Beaty, Secretary John Stevens, Treasurer Randall Watson, Director Mike Ferry, and Director Paul Voelker.

The following committee chairmen were present: Conventions Tom Cusker, Registrar Howard Garner, and Smokey Mountain Division Superintendent Larry Burkholder.

The following members were present: None.

A quorum was present. Meeting called to order at 9:00 am.

President Beaty welcomed all the attendees.

President Beaty thanked Mike Ferry for coordinating the meeting place. (Sec: Mike had to do this twice since the original meeting was cancelled due to an ice storm).

President Beaty briefed the attendees on the recent Board of Trustees meeting held in Phoenix, AZ. There were many items he covered, but the most significant had to do with the Regional Allocation of Dues. It has been decided that the amount passed to the region for each dues paying member will be \$2.00. Dues paying members are ALL dues paying members, including Life Members. We will receive payments twice a year-half the first week of September and half the first week in March. The NMRA database will be used to establish the number of members.

President Beaty informed the attendees that it has been determined that a member can not hold a position at the Region level and be on the Board of Directors. He will remain as President of the Region.

A motion was made to accept the Secretary's minutes from the 2004 Fall Business Meeting as published in the SouthErneR. Moved by Randall Watson. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Ferry. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Randall Watson. The Region has total cash and investments of \$22, 634.64. Total Liabilities and Reserves are \$18,568.71. Non designated cash is \$4,065.93. The Region is still dues dependent because of the cost of printing the SouthErneR. A motion was made to accept the report. Moved by Paul Voelker. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Ferry. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Vice-President Pat Turner had no report. A report was submitted by Smokey Mountain Division Superintendent Larry Burkholder showing a huge membership increase in his division due to the new membership standards set by the LRP. This increase in membership has greatly increased his postal costs. This is difficult for his division since they have limited assets. A report was submitted by Cumberland Division Superintendent Bob Hultman. They have been quite busy and have numerous events scheduled for the future. Steel City Division Superintendent Tom Cusker reported on activities within his division. They are attempting to set up another tour of the NorTrak Facility, possibly in April. Director Mike Ferry reported on the activities of the Crossville group and other activities within the HQ division. The Crossville group is very excited about there on going layout construction. They plan on attending the Piedmont Division Train Show in March. Treasurer Randall Watson reported on the numerous activities of the Piedmont Division. They had a successful auction, in October and have another scheduled for the end of February. The Piedmont Pilgrimage was a huge success with over 1,000 visitors attending the 39 open houses. The Merit Badge Crew had 15 scouts attend the latest session at the Southeastern Railway Museum. Another session is scheduled there on April 16. The division also has the Train Show coming up March 12-13 in Marietta.

Membership Chairman Tom Schultz had no report. NMRA HQ Office Manager Jenny Hendricks briefed us on many items including the On-Line Store, Insurance, and the Rail Pass Program, but the most important topic was membership. The discussion centered around the impacts that the LRP was going to have on dues, Life Members, and the membership database.

Registrar Howard Garner reported that the region now has 1,075 members. SER dues paying members total 617. Life members total 191.

SouthErneR Editor Paul Voelker reported on circulation numbers and costs of the SouthErneR. President Beaty reported that while in Phoenix he received numerous positive comments on the quality and style of the SouthErneR. The Editor led a discussion on an ongoing advertising dispute with NMRA/SER member Frank Pearsall. President Beaty will contact Mr. Pearsall.

The Editor submitted an Advertising Policy Statement to cover the submission of ads to the SouthErneR. A motion was made to accept the policy as the official advertising policy of the SouthErneR. Moved by Mike Ferry. 2<sup>nd</sup> Randall Watson. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

The e-mail report submitted by the Education Chairman was read. He noted there were no changes. The e-mail report submitted by the AP Chairman George Gilbert was read. Nine members have recently received AP certificates. There are other certificates pending. The e-mail report submitted by the Historian indicated that Werner Scheutky has donated 8 mm films of past SER conventions. An attempt is being made to convert these to VHS or DVD.

The e-mail report submitted by Web Page Chairman Mike Broadway was read. He has only had time to make minor changes to the website. He is still working on posting a regional calendar.

The e-mail report submitted by Good and Welfare Chairman Dudley Ross was read. He reported that he has written 52 letters since his last report.

Convention Coordinator Tom Cusker presented his report on upcoming conventions.

2005 Convention: Boone Morrison has cancelled as scheduled guest speaker. Watch the web site and the SouthErneR for more information.

2006 Convention: Bluff City Division has been in contact with him on almost a weekly basis. They have signed a contract with the convention complex and chosen a slogan and a logo. They have also started advertising.

2007 Convention: Piedmont Division had no report on their "Trax to the Max" convention to be held at the Komatsu Facility in Cartersville, GA. The convention will be the weekend before Memorial Day.

Convention handbook: Work is progressing on this project.

Future Conventions: Work is progressing on this project.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Non-dues Revenue Project: No report was submitted by Scott Perry. Treasurer Randall Watson reported that additional funding has been authorized by the Piedmont Division BOD, but they need a letter from the SER BOD. President Beaty will contact the Piedmont Division Superintendent for more information.

Single Membership Committee: No report was submitted by Tom Schultz.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

By-Laws Committee Report: The BOD reviewed all the proposed changes to the SER By-Laws. Most changes are obvious and directed by the LRP. Some of the changes need to be explained to the membership. The President was directed to cover those issues in his next report in the SouthErneR.

Director Mike Ferry made the following motion: I move that we accept the proposed by-law changes of the SER By-Laws as presented to the Board of Directors on 2/19/05 for presentation to the membership via the SouthErneR to be voted on by the membership in attendance at the Annual Business Meeting. Moved by Mike Ferry. 2<sup>nd</sup> Randall Watson. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

SouthErneR Future: The size of the SouthErneR will remain at or below 24 pages. The editor has posted an expanded version on the SER website. The format and distribution will remain the same. The Editor and the Registrar will monitor membership and subscription numbers to help monitor the

publication numbers.

Regional Advisory Council (RAC) Representative: The President led a discussion of the upcoming elections for the RAC. The ballots will be in the next issue of Scale Rails.

SouthErneR Ad Policy: This item was covered during the discussion of the SouthErneR's editor report.

Realignment of Membership/Registrar duties: A discussion was held on the duties of the registrar and the membership committees. Now that members sign up for membership and pay dues through the national office, the duties of the registrar have changed. The President submitted the following proposal:

It is recommended that the Registrar position be renamed Membership with the purpose of maintaining direct liaison with NMRA HQ and NMRA membership activities. It is recommended that the current Membership Committee Chairman duties be redefined to work in direct liaison with the Division superintendent, assisting the VP as may be required.

Moved by Randall Watson. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mike Ferry. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Assistant Treasurer: Treasurer Randall Watson submitted a letter from Piedmont Division member T. William Parks who has volunteered to for the position of Assistant treasurer. A discussion was held and those who know Mr. Parks spoke about him. The President decided to accept Mr. Park's offer to serve as Assistant Treasurer.

A motion was made to adjourn. Moved by Randall Watson. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Voelker. Motion passed by unanimous vote..

Meeting adjourned at 1352.

Submitted by

John Stevens  
Secretary

Charlie Crawford kitbashed this NYC Ice House from a Walthers kit, shortening the structure to fit the small platform it serves on his layout.



Photo by P. V. Voelker

## The President's Car Robert Beaty, MMR



This is a very important issue of the Southerner. It contains the proposed new set of Bylaws for the Southeastern Region of the NMRA. Under the new NMRA Regulations, all Regions' By-laws had to be changed or rewritten to be in compliance with the new governing directives of our organization. You may recall last May at our annual meeting, the membership authorized the Board of Directors to review the SER Constitution and bylaws and draft revisions as necessary to bring them into compliance with the national organization Regulations. I am asking each of you to take time to read the enclosed draft carefully. Your vote to accept these changes to the bylaws will be cast at the annual meeting in Montgomery. There were several significant changes generated by the new Regulations. In this column I will provide you the change and the rationale for it.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The Bylaws of which Bob is talking about appear in both the printed version of the newsletter and the special electronic "Convention Issue". Anyone who wants to take a look at the Bylaws will need to download the Convention Issue.

In Article I, there were no changes. In Article II, Minor word changes were made to reflect the correct state of incorporation, and to clarify the goals and objectives of the organization.

In Article III, The class of membership and eligibility is set as defined by the Regulations of the NMRA. Any member of the NMRA residing in the geographical area of the SER as defined in Article II is considered a member of this corporation. (Single Membership). There will no longer be non-resident members of the SER. (However, anyone may subscribe to our publication.) The last sentence in subparagraph 1.b explains how non resident NMRA members can participate in any NMRA sanctioned activity and subscribe to any publications that may be provided. Any person who fails to renew their NMRA membership, ceases to be a member of the SER. Paragraph 3 defines the new procedures for application for membership through the national Headquarters. Membership dues and subscription fees will be collected by the National organization and a percentage returned to the Regions for expenses related to mandated programs of the NMRA. (Currently, this amount will be \$2.00 for each NMRA member residing within our geographical boundaries, plus all subscription fees collected for publications. This amount will be paid to the Regions semi-annually.) Most of the remaining part of paragraph 3 defining obsolete membership categories has been deleted.

Article IV has been renamed Membership and Fees. This Article received the most re-write because all classes of membership are now governed by the Regulations of the NMRA. Membership status in the SER is directly linked to current membership standing in the national organization. Life membership in the SER is granted to Life members of the NMRA residing within our Region. There will no longer be SER Life members that are not members of the national organization.

Note that sub-paragraph 4 allows your Board of Directors to levy additional fees as may become necessary for activities not covered by the apportioned membership fees received from national. The wording here is provided so as to not impede the SER BOD from the achievement of the corporation's goals and objectives.

There were no changes to Article V. Article VI has verbiage added that removes the role of Trustee from the position of President and re-aligns this position as a member of the NMRA Region Advisory Council (RAC). Article VII paragraph 1a removes the election of Region President as also the Region Trustee. The position of Trustee was eliminated by the new Regulations, replaced by the position of District Director. The verbiage linking tenure of the term of President to the role of NMRA Trustee was stricken. Wording was added to sub-paragraph 2 to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the nominating committee to eliminate possible conflicts of interest. There are minor wording changes in Article VIII clarifying a quorum and the convention bid process.

The following changes were made to Article IX. Under Publication Chairman, the word "mailing" was replaced with "distribution" regarding providing the Southerner to the membership. This will allow the BOD and the Editor more flexibility in achieving a more cost effective and efficient distribution process using all available resources. The position of Education Chairman was added and the Achievement Program and Contest chairs were realigned under this position to conform to the new NMRA structure. Wording was added to establish that the contest rules of the NMRA will be used within the SER, and additional categories or awards may be established as deemed appropriate.

There were no changes to Articles X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, or XV.

Now what does all of the foregoing mean? Simply stated, with your approval of the by-laws as submitted, The Constitution and By-laws of the SER will be brought into compliance with the new Regulations of the NMRA. The Region membership shall consist of all resident NMRA members. The SER will receive a portion of all dues collected for all categories of NMRA membership. The

President of the SER no longer serves as the Region Trustee as that position has been eliminated. As a member of the RAC, the Region President will continue to have a voice to the Board of Directors of the NMRA. Your Board of Directors has done an excellent job of researching and developing this re-write of our by-laws and I most strongly recommend you return an affirmative ballot.

Other important changes you need to be aware of: My final report to the membership as the SER Trustee covering the mid-year NMRA BOT meeting in Phoenix, AZ is posted on our website for your reading pleasure. The most significant change is that as of March 15, 2005 the NMRA will no longer accept applications for Life Membership. Life membership in the SER will no longer be

available also. All current Life Members shall remain as such, and retain all the privileges pertaining. The long term cost was becoming prohibitive. Current SER Life members who are not currently NMRA members (4) will become "Life subscribers." The NMRA has also stated that electronic versions of membership information publications is an acceptable format except for ballots requiring a vote of the membership.

**Do not forget to register for the Convention in Montgomery. See you there!**

Bob Beaty, President

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Education Department  
Dean Belowich, MMR



With the start of the new year, we are all hopefully well into the cold weather modeling season.

As I noted in my last column, most modeling takes place during the winter months than during the summer when one would rather be outside. This is good time of year to be working on contest models as well, and I trust all those people entering the Barn contest, general contest and wishing to be AP judged, are hard at work on their newest creations.

I mentioned last time that with our next Annual Convention Tom Schultz and I would be working to provide a couple of youth oriented programs. We kicked around several ideas, and decided that in an effort to start small, we would try a pair of simple programs that have worked well in some other regions. The first activity is a "make it-take it" class or clinic, where they can build a simple kit and take it with them. This has been successful at both the national and regional level in the past. The second activity is a junior modeling contest. We would like to set aside an area for the display of models constructed by our younger modelers, hold an informal contest, and provide some awards for their efforts. This contest and display would be in two groups, those 13 to 18, and 13 and under.

That having been said, we of course will be looking for some assistance in both of these programs. We will need of course a secure area for the model display. We will also need the use of a room for the clinic. Most importantly we will need a couple of volunteers to help us staff the clinic and assist the youth. Someone who has previous experience working with youths and modeling would be preferable, but we accept all help.

The contest will require a couple of judges and possibly a person to log in the models. We would like to keep the registration time of models confined to Saturday, 9am until 12pm. That should allow enough time to get models into the contest, and allow the volunteers time to enjoy

other aspects of the convention. With everyone's help, we can make this first effort into youth participation a success!

We will also be having the regular model contest and AP judging. There will be staff on hand to register models into the contest and evaluate models. For those who have a fear or dislike of contests, but are interested in the Achievement Program and earning merit awards, you can have your models evaluated and scored separate from the contest. I think that many people do not take advantage of this, and feel that the contest is the only way to get Merit Judged. Far from it. We have always been available to score for merit, those modelers wishing to do so.

For those with a further fear of contests, you can enter our informal theme contest. This year it is a barn diorama. The guidelines for it can be found elsewhere in this issue of the Southerner. It is a fun way to enjoy building something new, and have some friendly competition. Last year we had nine models in the theme contest, let's try for even more this year!

And again we will also have a model display area, where you can bring some of the models you have built in the past year and show them off! This has shown to be quite popular and the area grows every year. After all, it is models that this organization is about.

We will also have a full slate of clinics for members to attend. The variety should provide many new ideas and techniques for the novice and experienced modeler alike. We are thankful to have such a vast pool of knowledge in our Region and that they are willing to share that knowledge with us. Please try to attend as many clinics as you can, you will not be disappointed with what you learn.

I look forward to see everyone in Montgomery!



**The VP's Keyboard  
Pat Turner**



I am sorry to report that I was unable to attend the most recent SER Board of Directors Meeting in February. Due to a meeting date change on account of bad weather the second date conflicted with another out of town event that required my attendance. It didn't bother me too much that I had to go to Florida either! <G>

I have been moderately busy both with SER stuff and life in general. I have restarted the SER merchandise store for the benefit of the members of the SER. While all the profits of this will go to the SER it is more of a service to you the member by allowing you a place to purchase your SER merchandise and show your support for the SER. The Profit margin or mark up on each product is small and basically just enough

to maintain the store at no cost to the Region. So please stop by the online SER Shirt Shack store at: <http://www.cafepress.com/patshirts2>

The products are of high quality and last a long time. I had one of these shirts last well over 3 years with heavy use. I will review the site from time to time to offer new products and welcome suggestions also.

I am currently working on getting in touch with all Division Superintendents about providing them with web space on the SER web page to host a Division web page for those that need it. This has been a slow moving project for me so please contact me about this for your Division.

That's about from the VP.'s Keyboard for now.

Pat Turner, Vice Pres. SER  
[candsn3@mindspring.com](mailto:candsn3@mindspring.com)

**Achievement Program Report  
George Gilbert**



The Achievement Program in the SER continues to draw the attention of a small number of very active and very good model railroaders. In 2004 the list of people below submitted SOQ's for an AP award.

- |                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Edward Jahns     | Association Volunteer  |
| Howard Garner    | MR Electrical Engineer |
| Howard Garner    | Master Builder Scenery |
| Mike Braunstein  | MR Author              |
| Richard Coble    | Association Volunteer  |
| Joe Gelmini      | Association Volunteer  |
| Robert McIntyre  | MR Electrical Engineer |
| Scott Perry      | Association Volunteer  |
| Charlie Crawford | Master Builder Cars    |

And I currently have a submission from Robert McIntyre for MR Author which I am reviewing now (actually reading some neat stuff; he submitted a book). [Editor's Note—wait until he sees my submission!]

Over the course of the year I have also received a few e-mails from modelers interested in the Achievement Program. I encourage them to

continue and would extend that encouragement to the other some 1000+ SER modelers to join them in the AP.

From the number of Volunteer certificates, it seems obvious that the Region and the Divisions have found some good folks to get the work done.

**Good & Welfare  
Dudley Ross**



Since last report, Good and Welfare has written a total of 20 letters, 16 for "Milestone Birthdays", one a letter of condolence, two "get well and speedy recovery" letters and one letter of congratulation to Joe Gelmini on the birth of his new grandson. Alex Michael Gelmini was born on January 27th; mother, father and young Alex are all doing well.

Again I ask you all to help me by keeping me informed of events such as, births, marriages, illnesses, deaths or any other occasions you would like to share with the S.E.R. membership.

Thank you  
Dudley Ross, Chairman  
Good & Welfare Committee

Dudley Ross  
3427 Oak Shadow Lane  
Montgomery, AL 36116  
[ross419@charter.net](mailto:ross419@charter.net)

# DIVISION NEWS

## STEEL CITY - DIVISION 2

Tom Cusker—Tom.Cusker@motion-ind.com

The Steel City Division has had an active time since Christmas. At our January meeting MMR Larry Smith talked to the group about the advantages to kit bashing. Larry brought several examples of buildings built right out the box and an example of what it can look like if you kit bash it. He explained how simple modifications can greatly improve the appearance of the building. The group had a good time discussing this issue.

On Saturday January 22<sup>nd</sup> the Division and the Wrecking Crew Model Railroad Club entertained 10 cub scouts and their parents for a train day. They had a chance to view the club's HO layout as well as the Magic City Railroad Club's O and G layouts. The boys (and their parents) asked lots of questions about modeling and how-to. Following several hours of activities lunch was served to the boys and their parents. Everyone found this to be a very rewarding time and at least two of the parents said they thought they might start building a layout with their son. And, believe it or not one was a MOM. Let's hear it for MOMS.

February was pretty busy for us. We had our regular month meeting on Thursday February 17. MMR Bob Beaty was our guest speaker. Bob talked about how building a layout can be a scary thing. It is such a large undertaking that many folks never get past the

dreaming or bench work stage. With the input from several of the guys who have started layouts, Bob got everyone thinking about focusing on a small portion of the layout. Building and detailing it and then moving on to another section. In that way you can develop your skills, knock a large job down into manageable pieces, and you can try new things and see how they work. Since it is a small area it is easy to change if it doesn't work out. Last but not least you get the feeling of accomplishment AND you can invite your friends over to see it.

On Saturday February 19<sup>th</sup> three of our members, Hunter Womble, Stan Simms and Jim Gibson held open house for us to come and see their layouts. All are long time modelers and have great layouts. It was really great to see these fine layouts.

Last but not least, the Steel City Model Railroad club held their annual train show on Saturday February 26<sup>th</sup>. It was in a new location with lots of room.

At our March Mike McEachern displayed his collection of antique stereopticon images of early western railroads under construction at the regular meeting. He brought several stereoscopes which allow everyone a chance to view and enjoy these great old photos.

As always we meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. Everyone is invited to stop by if you are in the area. The location and time are listed in the Southerner.



*SER members in the picture are Roy Stewart, Tom Cusker Div. Super (both far left), MMR Larry Smith, MMR and SER President Bob Beaty (right, rear). Taking the picture was Jeff Duncan.*

## GULF - DIVISION 4

Ed Dice—EdwardDice@aol.com

Literally, I have just gotten back from a little train show at Samson AL. It was put on to help the town celebrate their centennial and rich railroad history. We had lots of history display panels from the L&N History Museum, which were very interesting and most topical. Plus the coordinator, Pat Whigham, pulled a large assortment of historical photos from all over the area out of her huge collection of 27,000 photographs for the local three county area. Lots of pictures with a strong railroading theme, not just all family photos. It made for a very interesting display. And showed that Pat's archives are a treasure trove of railroading information for some folks.

Unfortunately, I was also under the weather as [SER Editor] Paul recently was and many others, too. That made setup and operation of the G scale layout a bit of a problem. But with the help of John Fletcher, Emerald Coast Garden Railway Club, we got two large loops up and running and a back and forth trolley line through the center of town. The large number of school kids had a blast on the Friday exhibition and came back on Saturday and Sunday. Now that I am back home and a bit recovered, I can finish unpacking the van with its ton of G scale track.

Other model railroading events are continuing to happen across the Gulf Division. In the town of Fairhope AL, the South West Alabama Railroad Modelers (SWARM) are getting things ready for their annual train show on 19-20 March at the Elementary School. Lots of modular layouts and lots of dealers. It has always been a great train show and gets lots of people since it is held right in the middle of the Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival also that same week. A busy place with great things both model railroading and crafts. Come on out.



A little train show at Samson, AL

Ed Dice Photo

Later on 16 April, the West Florida Railroad Museum is holding their Spring Open House and Model Railroading Swap Meet. This will include the permanent HO layout, an N scale modular from Fort Walton Beach, and the ECGRC G scale railroad on the 1:1 flatcar. We will be serving up some hamburgers, hot-dogs, chips and drinks. I will be stoking the fire at the grill. This is the first open house since Ivan clobbered us last September.

Recent model railroading happenings include the GATS Train Show in Mobile at the end of January. It had a great line up of modular layouts from Z to G with lots of vendors. Weather was great. The SWARM guys continue with their monthly round robin meetings which includes an operating layout. The Fort Walton guys are busy with their permanent HO DCC layout. And the West Florida RR Museum has both the HO layout club and the G scale club strong and percolating. RR Museum Board has approved the concept for a permanent G scale railroad on the RR Museum grounds and plans are being worked for that as I speak.

Happy Model Railroading everybody. Now I have to unload a weary van and get some rest.

Ed Dice  
Pensacola FL

## PIEDMONT - DIVISION 5

Bob McIntyre - robert.mcintyre@ge.com

It is exciting as the Piedmont Division Superintendent to be able to write about all of the Division activities that are going on! In February the Division completed it's second Auction. Although the attendance was not as large as the previous event in September all of the items were sold. Please stay tuned for details on the next one in September. It is an activity that the Division feels

there is strong interest in. Both the sellers and buyers had a great time. As usual Howard Goodwin did a great job as Auctioneer. The staff that puts on the event needs to be thanked for a fun filled evening.

By the time this column is published the Annual Train Show will have been completed for 2005. This is the premier Train Show in the metro Atlanta area. Attendees come from throughout the Southeast to purchase items from a fine group of vendors. Make sure to mark the second week-



*The Piedmont Division's Second Semi-Annual Auction was held on Feb. 26 at the Elks Lodge in Tucker (Atlanta), GA. Their next auction is scheduled for Sept. 24, 2005. Howard (Horn) Goodwin, Scott Perry & Charlie Crawford work up front while Rick Coble, Marie Perry & Ovidiu Trifanescu work the computers in the back.*



road operations. There has been a lot of local interest in operations and this clinic introduced many on how to get started in this part of model railroading.

In November the Division completed the second annual Piedmont Pilgrimage layout tour program. There were 30 layouts on tour. This year we are looking for over 40. Although it is early mark you weekend calendars for November 05 and take part in this exciting program. A new feature is we are placing our advertisers ads on our Division Website link as well as the Pilgrimage brochure. We are encouraging them to advertise early for increased exposure. If you are thinking about advertising please contact me at 404-217-3673.

Although not a direct Division Activity the Chattahoochee Operating Group (Bob McIntyre, Howard Goodwin, Randall Watson, Brian Glock, George Bloodworth, Chris White, Ovidiu Trifanescu, and guest Joe Gelmini) attended the Great Train and High Rail Show in Timonium, MD. As many of you know this is run by Howard Zane. It features over 1,000 tables! Needless to say there was no shortage of things to look at and purchase. The highlight of the trip was a repeat visit to Howard's beautiful Piedmont Division of the Western Maryland layout. This layout is over 3,000 sq. feet of beauty. It has been featured in two of Allen Keller's video series. The group flew to Baltimore this time. We did not want a repeat of the "snow jam" that slowed us down on the return voyage last year.

end in March on your calendars each year. The clinic schedules continue during our monthly meetings at the Elks Lodge in Tucker, GA (second Tuesday of each month). In January Ron Gough continued his two part series on Geodesic Foam, "Rock Castings". This is a commercial technique that Ron has used successfully on his layout. I am sure many others are going to try the method of scenery building.

Scott Chatfield did a great clinic on **Railroad Hand Lanterns**. This clinic was a little different than the usual clinics and it generated a tremendous amount interest, especially in the area of railroad history.

In March yours truly gave a clinic on model rail-

One last item; Chris White and his dedicated volunteers did a fine job of signing up ten new members at the Railroadiana Train Show last fall. We used the new Rail Pass Program to sign half of the members. For you involved with recruiting new members this program will sign a new member up for six months at full benefits for only \$9.95. It is great way to get around the cost issue of membership. Of course the real challenge will be to get the new member involved enough to sign up for the full membership. Let me know if it works for you.

Well that is all for now. We look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming Regional Convention in Montgomery Alabama.



*Above, Top Right & Middle Right– Scott Chatfield's brought a large variety of lanterns to his Lantern Clinic in February to show off the different types that are out there. While a little smokey, this was a very interesting clinic.*



*On left Howard (Horn) Goodwin & Bob McIntyre work the membership booth at the **Railroadiana Trainshow**. On right Del Kittendorf & another division member man the booth during the show. Ten new members were signed up at the show!*



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**A percentage of each sale goes to the SER.**

### PALMETTO - DIVISION 7

Bill Alverson—[wealverson@juno.com](mailto:wealverson@juno.com)

A meet is in the works for members of the Palmetto Division (and adjacent divisions, also) **Saturday, April 30, 2005**, to be held in the auditorium of the **Allen Bennett Memorial Hospital in Greer, SC**. Swap meet/clinics/layout tours are planned. (Sorry--the hospital's policy does not allow vendors or dealers.) A definite agenda will follow by direct mail to Palmetto Division members.

### PROTO 87

#### SELF-GUARDED FROG TURNOUT

Built as an experiment and for years has adorned a wall in the layout room. Editor



## BLUFF CITY - DIVISION 10

Ned B. Savage - [nssavage@juno.com](mailto:nssavage@juno.com)

The **2006 SER Convention** planning committee is moving ahead with plans and actions to host the region in June of 2006. A group of committee members went to everyone of the 46 vendors at the Great American Train Show which was just held here in February.

The Show also included displays by 4 of the now 5 local modular railroad groups. They were N-Scale modular layouts by Bluff City Benders and Mid-South Railrunners, a 027 modular Layout by the Mid-South Three Railers, and a brand new modular G-Scale 15 foot by 26 foot layout by the Mid-South Garden Railway Association.

The Local Newspaper had an article in the "business section" about the show and the newspaper stated that the attendance for the weekend show was 5000. We will be continuing to strive to increase our membership and with exposure to numbers of people such as were at

this past GATS show, it should a little easier.

The HO Modular Group decided not to set up this time. They have their modules set up in the upstairs location next to the Mid-South Railrunners layout. Both of these groups are planning and working on semi-permanent track works that will adjoin their modular layouts. These two layouts will be part of the Layout Tour in June of 2006.

The **Memphis Society of Model Railroad Engineers** (1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Night Group) is planning another great year of programs to be presented at their meetings this year. The programs include contests, MNRA model judging instruction, Prototype and Model slides and movies, how to clinics, and swap meets.

The **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Night Group** meets at the Highland Street Church of Christ, at 7:30 PM contact me for additional information at: [nssavage@juno.com](mailto:nssavage@juno.com)

## SMOKY MOUNTAIN - DIV. 12

Larry Burkholder - [labtexan@chartertn.net](mailto:labtexan@chartertn.net)

The Division is trying to develop a functioning group, with the increase in membership from the new policy with the NMRA probably giving us enough nucleus with which to do something. Separation will always be a problem, but there are central locations and with an attractive program we should be able to get a reasonable draw to a meeting.

Our first endeavor is a family picnic scheduled for April 24th at the Little River Railroad and Museum in Townsend, TN. The LLR is a restoration project to honor the logging railroad that used to operate on over 150 miles of track in the Smoky Mountains, but closed down in 1939. By the time any of you read this we will have had the picnic, but anyone interested can learn more about the LLR project at their web site: [www.LittleRiverRailroad.org](http://www.LittleRiverRailroad.org) If we get a decent turnout we can try to organize regular meetings.

The Mountain Empire Modular Railroaders club in Johnson City, TN, is finalizing their contract with East Tennessee State University to operate there in the basement of the Reece Museum. Until the contract is finalized operations are restricted by University liability issues. The Knoxville Area Model Railroaders club, in cooperation with the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge, responded to a request from the Director of the Reece Museum by sending a copy of the agreement between KAMR and CMOR.

As Superintendent of Division 12, I was pleased to have the opportunity to attend the SER Board meeting in Chattanooga in February. It was informative and it was also nice to put faces with the names I frequently see. I look forward to more active participation in the future.

**CUMBERLAND - DIVISION. 11**

**Bob Hultman - hultman@earthlink.net**

Cumberland Division has several activities underway. We take both N and HO scale RRs to the GATS Show in Nashville March 12-13, 2005. The Nashville Ntrak folks are working with the city of Smyrna regarding building an N scale replica of Smyrna in the 1940s-50s in the Smyrna depot. A significant amount of grant/appropriated money will be supporting this effort. We are also preparing for the Spring 2005 Division Meet/Model Train Show/TC Ry Museum Open House on April 2, 2005.

Cumberland Valley Model Railroaders (Our HO module group) has a new 24' yard made of four 6' modules for our traveling railroad. There are eight arrival and departure tracks, four for the inside main and four for the outside main. It also has many crossover and run around locations. It was made with no connector tracks to make it faster to set up. All tracks are laid to the end of the modules and alignment is held with 1-inch pins between the modules. This yard has been completely scenicked and has served in the last 2 modular setups for CVMR.

Tom Staggs sent in the following - **Nashville Ntrak** is now back at TC Ry Museum after the extended 4 month stay at the Adventure Science Center in Nashville. We have a small layout set up at TCRM until the Great American Train Show in Nashville (GATS) so we can, as we did last Saturday, run model trains for the pleasure of the Excursion train passengers.

After we return from GATS we will set up a much larger layout but will leave room for module repair and refurbishing. We have had 6 modules selected to go to the NMRA convention in Cincinnati and included in the national NTRAK layout. Beech Creek Mine, Sierson Circus, two inside corners and a portion of our Yard are the modules selected and are being spruced up a little.

Jimmie Guthrie is designing "A History of N Scale" display with trains, photographs, comparisons to other scales and an explanation of

NTRAK that will be put into the Display cabinets in the Excursion Passenger waiting room at TCRM.

In the last 6 months Nashville Ntrak has added two new members and another has come back after returning from Chicago.

Also, several members are regularly helping Bill Hemrick in Franklin TN bring his HO model RR to life, including establishing a car card-waybill operating system for over 200 cars, fine-tuning the track plan and installing trackwork.

A busy late winter-early spring....

Bob Hultman, Division Superintendent

**DAVE MULLER AWARD**

As a reminder, the categories with applicable points are below. All Division Superintendents submit your candidates name and point count by March 1st of each year to be presented at the SER Conventions currently held in May.

<u>CERTIFICATES OR DEEDS DONE</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
Holds "Volunteer" Certificate	20
Holds "Official" Certificate	15
Holds "Author" Certificate	10
Other Certificates, MMR, Gold Spike Award	10
Has put on one or more clinics (per clinic)	5
Active in putting on a Division convention (per full day)	5
Active in putting on a SER convention (per full day)	10
Active in putting on a National convention (per full day)	7
Organized a modular and/or sections layout show	15
Active as a contest or AP judge during a convention	10
Active as Committee Chair for at least 6 months this year at Division level or higher.	10
Served as an AP judge for at least 6 months	10
Active in a modular or sectional layout	5
Boy Scout Merit Badge program (per badge)	5
Signed up one or more members to both NMRA & SER (per member)	3

Send nominees to Lenny Polinsky at:

**[lenpolinsky@bellsouth.net](mailto:lenpolinsky@bellsouth.net)**

Or by snail mail to:

**Lenny Polinsky  
P.O. Box 804  
Rex, GA 30273**

## LAND O' SKY - DIVISION 15

Fred Coleman—coleman@bellsouty.net

### Clinton Smoke reporting for Fred Coleman:

Western North Carolina Model Railroaders, also known as the Land O' Sky Division of the South-eastern Region, NMRA, held its 15<sup>th</sup> annual Model Train Show the first weekend in March. By many measures the event was a success with over 1,000 paid customers. Over 60 vendors were present and most reported having a good show.

After several years in other venues, this year's show was held in the Exhibition Hall of Asheville's Civic Center in the heart of downtown Asheville, NC. Advertised with three operating layouts, there were actually five, including one each in O and S gauge. The Metrolina module crew from Belmont, NC was on hand with their excellent HO scale layout, and the host club

also operated their HO module layout. That layout continues to expand and is now running with 30 modules. A popular attraction of that layout was now-familiar miniature television camera mounted in a rail car, with the view transmitted to a nearby television set.

With the growing collection of modules, we have been challenged with finding a clean, well lighted, (and heated) place to store, work on, and even operate the layout. That challenge was recently overcome and with it, we have a new meeting place. Our new location is at the Eliada Home for Children. To get there take Patton Avenue (US 19/23) to New Leicester Highway (SR 63). Going north, look for Eliada Home Road on the right across from Ingles Grocery. We still meet on the first Thursday of most months at 7:00 pm. Visitors are always welcome.

## THE CLUB CAR

This is a list of clubs and organizations in the South Eastern 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: [voelkerpv@msn.com](mailto:voelkerpv@msn.com). Please note, you must provide a contact name and phone number! If you have a website you can send us the URL as well!

### Atlantic Division 8

**Atlantic Division**, Savannah, GA.

Nate Stone (912) 354-2604

**Coastal Rail Buffs**, Savannah, GA.,

Nate Stone (912) 354-2606

<http://www.coastalrailbuffs.org/>

**Golden Isles Model Railroad Club**, Brunswick, GA.

**Grand Strand Model Engineers**, Myrtle Beach, SC.

**Tennessee Central Railway Museum**, Nashville, TN.,

Terry Bebout, (615) 244-9001 FAX -2120

[terry.bebout@earthlink.net](mailto:terry.bebout@earthlink.net)

<http://tcry.org>

**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)

### Bluff City Division 10

**Bluff City Division**, Memphis, TN,

Ned B. Savage, (901) 682-8716

**The Memphis N-Scale Road Railers**

**The Memphis Society of Model Engineers—The 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Night Group** meets at the Highland Street Church of Christ, at 7:30 PM contact Ned for additional information at:

[nssavage@juno.com](mailto:nssavage@juno.com)

### Dixie Division 3

**Dixie Division**, Phil Hutchinson, Montgomery, AL, (334) 272-1933

**Central Alabama Model RR. Club**,

Montgomery/Prattville, AL,

Phil Hutchinson, (334) 272-1933

**Alabama Model Railroad Association**, Opelika, AL

**Southeast Alabama Model Railroad Club**, Dothan, AL,

Chuck Batherson (334) 677-3413

### Central Savannah River Division 9

**Central Savannah River Division**, Augusta, GA,

Terry Pitts, Jr. (706) 636-9581

**Georgia-Carolina Model Railroaders**, Augusta, GA,

Roy Tritt (706) 733-6870

### Empire Division 6

**Empire Division**, Richard Dalrymple, Macon, GA., (478) 471-8883 FAX -8994

**Columbus Model Railroad Club**, Columbus, GA.,

David Cotton (706) 323-1417

**Flint River Model Railroad Club**, Albany, GA.,

Jimmy Swinn (299) 883-3517

**Middle Georgia Model Railroad Club**, Warner Robbins, GA

<http://members.cox.net/mgmrc/>

Bill Attaway (478) 328-1743 [mgmrc@cox.net](mailto:mgmrc@cox.net)

**Thomasville Model Railroad Club**, Thomasville, GA.,

Ben Strickland (912) 465-3730

### Cumberland Division 11

**Cumberland Division**, Brentwood, TN.,

Bob Hultman (615) 833-5158

**Nashville NTRAK**, Nashville, TN.,

Ken Herrell (615) 352-4576

<http://www.nashvillentrak.org>

**Nashville Garden Railway Society**, Nashville, TN.,

Ross Evans (615) 292-6555

**Gulf Division 4**

**Gulf Division**, Pensacola, FL,  
Ed Dice (850) 293-3532 cell - (850) 455-1313 home  
**Miracle Strip Model RR Club**, Shalimar, FL  
Chris Beard (850)-244-0161  
[www.geocities.com/miraclestriprrclub](http://www.geocities.com/miraclestriprrclub)  
[rafollacchio@pcola.med.navy.mil](mailto:rafollacchio@pcola.med.navy.mil)  
**Emerald Coast Garden Railway Club** monthly meeting  
usually on third Saturday of the month at 1:30 PM in the  
Diner Car of the West Florida RR Museum, Milton FL,  
POC: EdwardDice@aol.com or 850-293-3532  
**Mobile Society of Model Engineers.**  
Dave Miller, at (251) 645-2296 for information  
**West Florida Model Railroad Club**, Milton, FL Keith  
Rapley (850) 434-6374  
**West Florida Railroad Museum**, Milton, FL  
**Pensacola Model Railroad Club**, Pensacola, FL  
**Southwest Alabama Railroad Modelers (SWARM)**,  
Mobile, AL  
Herb Kern (251) 660-1659 George Nelson ( ) -

**Headquarters Division 13**

**Headquarters Division**, <http://www.camrc.org>  
**Chattanooga Area Model Railroad Club**,  
Dale Bryant [dale.bryant@camrc.org](mailto:dale.bryant@camrc.org)  
(423) 752-0141 or (423) 991-5243 [www.camrc.org](http://www.camrc.org)  
**Chattanooga Society of Model Engineers**, Dunlap, TN  
<http://csme.livesteamtrains.com>  
Andy Morrision (423) 344-8502  
**Crossville Model Railroad Club**, Crossville, TN,  
Mike Ferry (931) 788-1828 [ferrym@citlink.net](mailto:ferrym@citlink.net)

**Land O'Sky Division 15**

**Land O' Sky Division**, Naples, N.C.,  
Fred Coleman (828) 694-0339  
**Apple Valley Model Railroad Club**, Hendersonville, NC,  
Ben Bartlett (828) 883-2799 Located in the Hendersonville  
Station, Open for visitors every Saturday 10 AM—2 PM,  
“We always consider new member candidates.”  
<http://AVMRC.com>  
**French Broad e’N’pire Ntrak Club**  
[www.fbe-ntrak.com](http://www.fbe-ntrak.com)  
**Western North Carolina Model Railroaders**,  
Fred Coleman (828) 694-0339

**Magnolia Division 14**

**Magnolia Division**, Pascagoula, MS.,  
Mike Barry (228) 762-0929  
**Jackson Society of Model Engineers**, Jackson, MS  
Jackie Meck (601) 842-0909 [www.jsme.org](http://www.jsme.org)

**MidSouth Division 1**

**Mid-South Division**, Fayetteville, TN.,  
Thomas Bailey (931) 433-4207  
<http://www.geocities.com/mta136/>  
**Northeast Alabama Model Railroad Club**, Guntersville,  
AL Charles Dick (205) 878-2537  
[charlesdick@mindspring.com](mailto:charlesdick@mindspring.com)  
**Redstone Model Railroad Club**, Huntsville, AL

**Palmetto Division 7**

**Palmetto Division**, William E. Alverson (864) 877-0432  
**Associated Model Railroads of Columbia**, Columbia, SC  
Jack Huffman 803-699-2518 or [amroc.org](http://amroc.org) for informa-  
tion.  
**Central Railway Model & Historical Association**,  
Pickens, SC, Howard R. Garner (864) 878-4705  
[hrgarner@innova.net](mailto:hrgarner@innova.net)

**Piedmont Division 5**

**Piedmont Division**, Alpharetta, GA.,  
Bob McIntyre (770) 518-8932  
**Chattahoochee Express Operating Group**,  
Bob McIntyre (770) 518-8932  
**Georgia Association of Narrow Gaugers**,  
Pat Turner (423) 744-0429  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/georgiangers>  
[GeorgiaNGers@yahoo.com](mailto:GeorgiaNGers@yahoo.com)  
**Georgia Society of Ferroequinologists**, Marietta,  
Bob Hoenes (770) 422-0081  
**Metro Atlanta N Scalers**, Atlanta, GA,  
Charles Leak (404) 262-2969 or  
George Potter (770) 339-4775  
**Model Railroad Club of Atlanta**, Atlanta, GA,  
Terry Weldon (770) 979-0473  
**North Atlanta O-Gauge Railroad Club**, Roswell, GA,  
Jeff Pergl (770) 516-6378  
**North Georgia Lego Train Club**,  
James Trobaugh (770)-844-1076  
<http://www.nglrc.org> OR [questions@nglrc.org](mailto:questions@nglrc.org)  
**North Georgia Modurail**, Jon Cook (770) 993-9620  
**Northwest Georgia N Track Club**, Woodstock, GA  
Located in the Woodstock Depot—Downtown Woodstock  
at Canton Rd./Arnold Mill  
**P.E.P.S.I. Lines**, 220 Washington Street, Gainesville, GA  
**Tri-State Area Model Railroad, Inc.**,  
Gordon Tuenge, (706) 455-8903  
[gotrains@yahoo.com](mailto:gotrains@yahoo.com)

**Smoky Mountain Division 12**

**Smoky Mountain Division**,  
Larry Burkholder (865) 408-9903  
**Knoxville Area Model Railroaders**, Oak Ridge, TN,  
Larry Burkholder, (865) 408-9903  
**Mountain Empire Modular Railroaders**, Johnson City,  
TN  
East Tennessee State University - Carrol Reece Museum  
Dean Odiorne, (423) 246-8998  
[pepperpikesn2@yahoo.com](mailto:pepperpikesn2@yahoo.com)

**Steel City Division 2**

**Steel City Division**, Birmingham, AL,  
Tom Cusker (205) 621-1778  
**Black Warrior Model Railroad Society**, Tuscaloosa, AL,  
Bob Way 205-556-3073  
**Mobile Society of Model Engineers**, Alabama Gulf -  
Chapter, NRHS  
2800 Graham Rd., S. Mobile, AL  
Call Dave Miller (251) 645-2296 for information  
**Wrecking Crew Model RR Club**, Bessemer, AL,  
1004 West Lake Mall

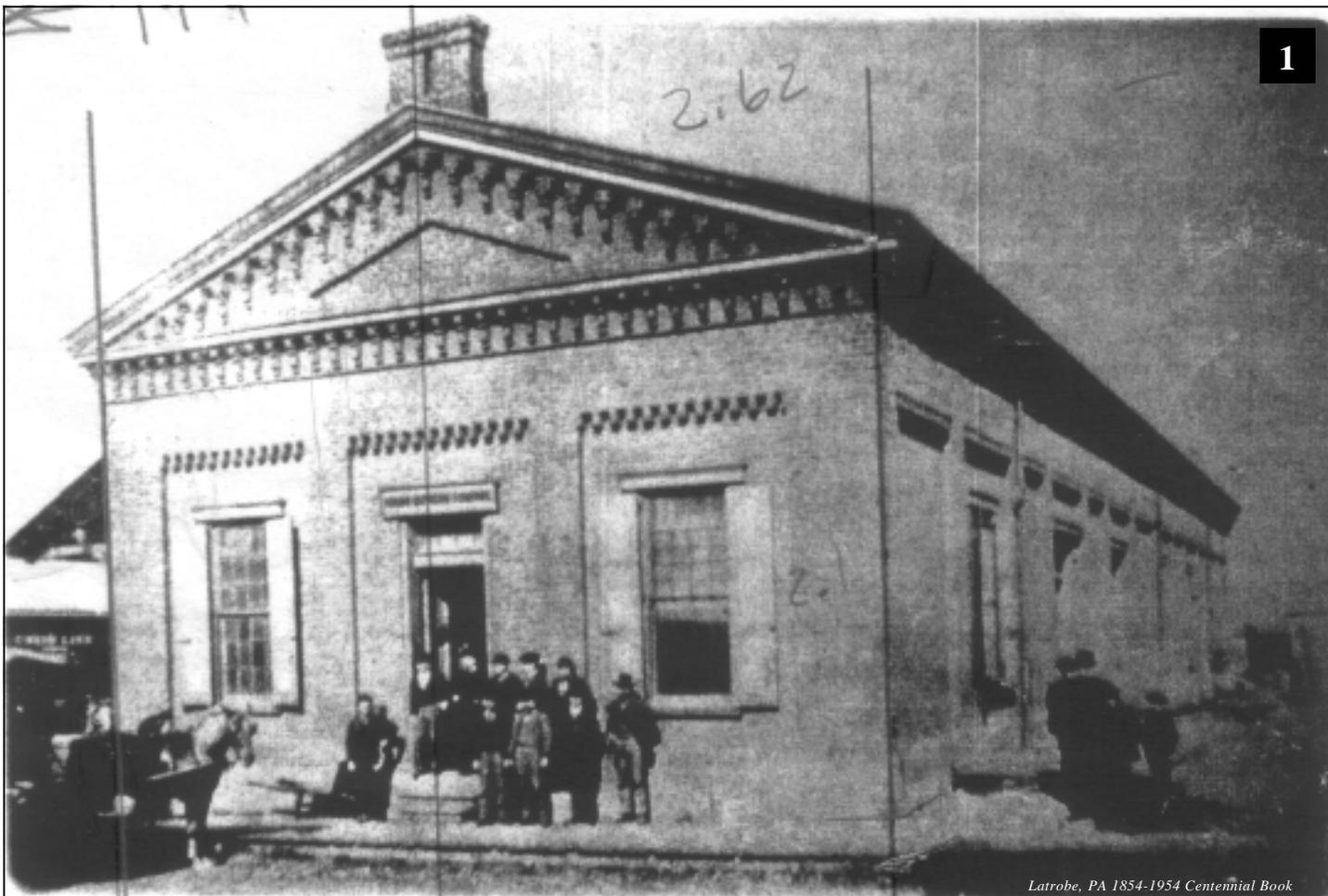
## Deciphering A Prototype's Photos The Latrobe, PA PRR Freight House

Sometimes just trying to figure out what a structure looks like can be a real pain in the butt, particularly if you only have a few photos available and they were taken many years apart—long enough for several structural changes to have occurred or thought to have occurred. Such is the case here.

John Travis had me over to his house one day to see if I could help him figure out just how to model the Freight House in Latrobe, PA. He showed me everything he had on the structure which didn't amount to very much as apparently not very much is available. What was even worse was that the photos had dates like 1910, 1920, 1930- & 1940-something, or 19-who-the-heck-knows! We also had an 1853 drawing from a magazine (as seen in photo 2 on the next page) showing a hotel and an unknown structure

(the structure in the circle). The significance of this drawing wasn't originally obvious to us. The hotel is the Gilcrest & is almost certainly the real subject of the drawing. The other structure appears to be mainly for reference.

After spending some time studying several of the photos we had available to us, we started looking closer at the drawing and came to the conclusion that the little building was the freight house in its original form. Comparing photo 2 with photo 3 shows the similarities of the two buildings and explains a lot of things. Unfortunately it didn't explain the great difference in length. Originally we thought that the building had been increased in size at some point and we nearly went to press under this mistaken assumption but before we did, a second drawing was discovered (actually, now that we knew



*Latrobe, PA 1854-1954 Centennial Book*

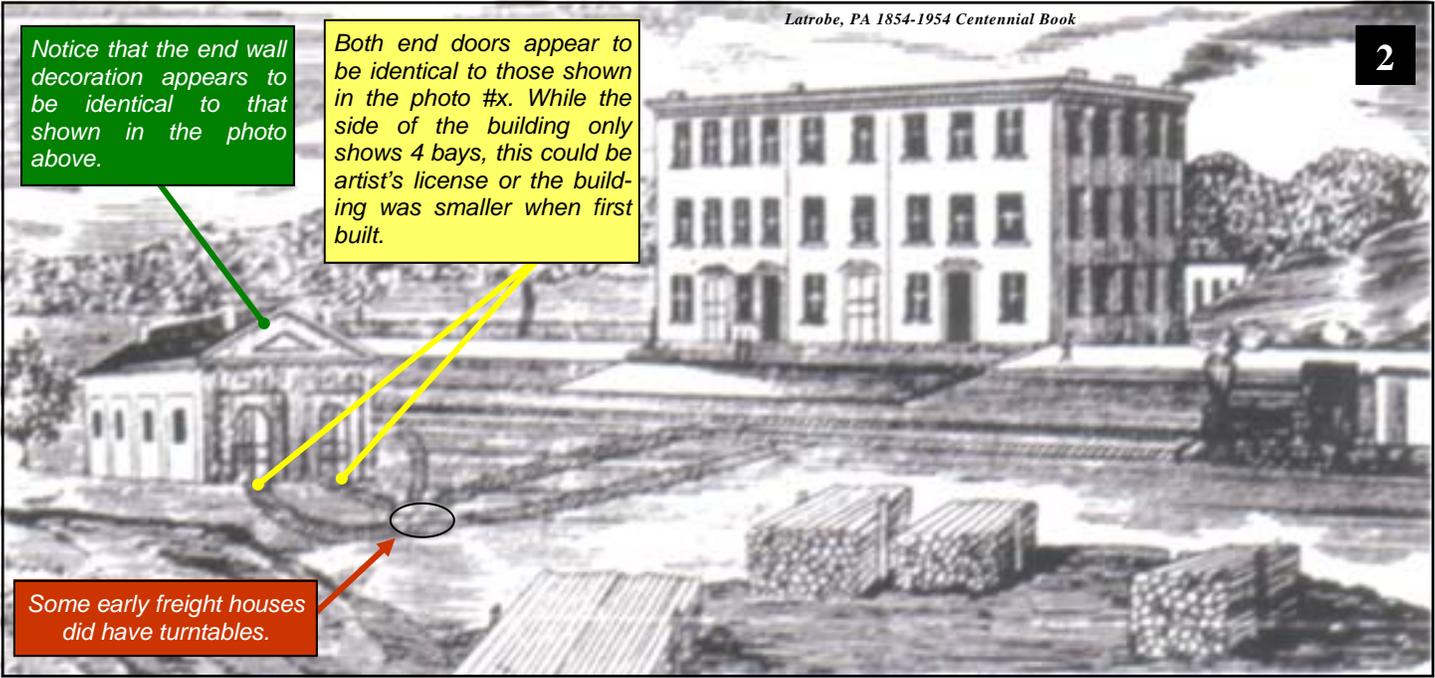
*The Latrobe Freight House around the turn of the century (1900).*

2

Notice that the end wall decoration appears to be identical to that shown in the photo above.

Both end doors appear to be identical to those shown in the photo #x. While the side of the building only shows 4 bays, this could be artist's license or the building was smaller when first built.

Some early freight houses did have turntables.



An inaccurate drawing of the Freight House at Latrobe dated 1853. This kind of threw us for a while and got us to think that the building was once much smaller when first built. Here, the hotel across the tracks is drawn correctly, but not the freight house. Another drawing we found dated 1851, which also shows both the hotel and freight house, is drawn more accurately and shows the freight house as being much longer than seen here. Both drawings do show a turntable as being in front of the building.

3



National Archives Photo

The Freight House in Latrobe, PA about 1920. Notice the large end doors in this view. My guess is that by this time in its life, the doors in this end of the building were non-operational as they probably extend all the way to the ground and the loading dock has been built in front of them. The junk piled against the doors pretty much confirms this observation. **View at right** was also taken in the 1920's. Arrow on roof points to the airfield.

Photo from the masthead background of the Latrobe Historical Gazette

4





*The Latrobe Freight House sometime in the late '30s or early '40s. The above photo (5) was taken from the passenger platform on this side of the tracks. The concrete bumpers were added in 1910 to prevent cars from rolling out onto the street which apparently happened fairly often. Notice that the power poles aren't very tall in this view—compare with those in the photo (6) on the next page which are much taller. The autos in this photo are from an earlier year than those in photo 6.*

what to look for this one kind of jumped out at us) that showed the building as having been built full-sized from the beginning. This second drawing dated 1851 had the correct number of wall sections and pilasters leading us to believe that the first drawing was merely a bad rendition of the freight house. However, both drawings showed tracks going into the end openings and the small turntable in front.

We have three photos of the other end of the building but no full side view of either side. We also had two track plan maps of the area but they conflicted with one another in some details. We came to the conclusion that the Sanborn

map (dated 1909) was drawn after the other map. The (assumed) older map lacked a ramp track, a station platform & had 6 equal-length freight yard tracks but had several buildings (at least one of which was lettered “temporary”) not on the Sanborn map which had the platform, a passenger waiting area and one shorter freight yard track ending at the passenger waiting area.

Shown on page 13 are 4 drawings approximating the floor plan of the Freight House over time and guessing at the window & door layout on the side we have no information about. The large doors in the end wall on the end opposite the street were sort of a mystery for a while but the



*The view above was made several years after the view on the previous page—photo 5. Here the telephone poles are taller, there are far more phone & power lines on the poles & the autos are from a much later period. Notice that there is a railing on the loading dock in both views but in different locations. In photo 5 the railing is at the end of the building whereas in the above view it appears at the left edge of the photo and well back from the building's end. The loading dock must have been cut back from the end of the building, presumably because the freight door at this location was no longer being used as a door, but as a window. The assumption is that more floor space may have been needed for office space.*

two drawings answered that question. They were to allow a freight car to enter the building early in its life so freight could be unloaded under cover, protected from the elements. Then later, when traffic grew and more covered real-estate was needed, the doors were permanently closed and a floor built over the space previously

occupied by the interior tracks. A loading dock was then built in front of the end doors and along the track side of the building and along the tracks extending for several car lengths. An awning roof was built along the side of the building to cover part of the loading dock.



June 26, 1954

7

The Latrobe Bulletin Friday, May 4, 1956.

### Parking Lots Will Accomodate 224 Vehicles

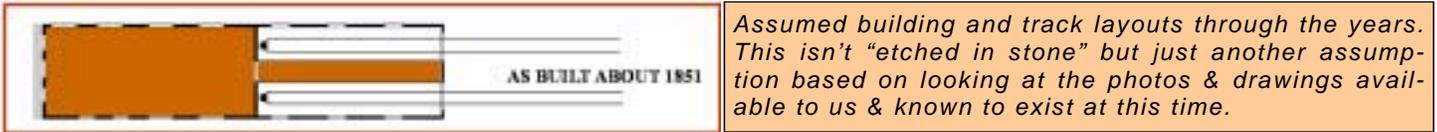


The parade photo above is dated June 1954. At this point in its life, the freight station is in its final few years of existence.

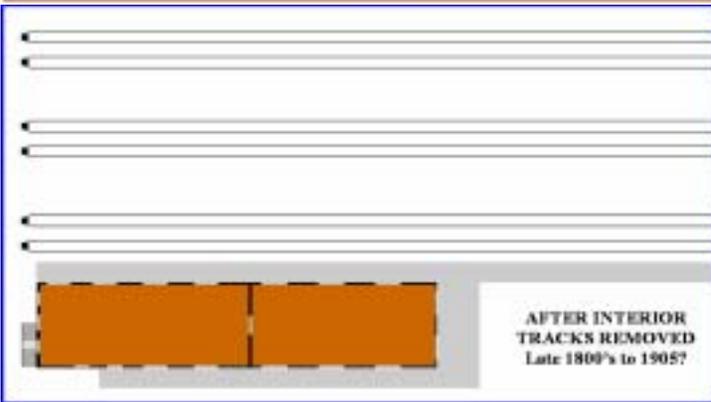
In 1956 the former PRR freight house was slated for demolition to provide space for a city parking lot. One assumes that those extremely well-built bumpers must have caused some real problems during the demolition as one still remains in place to this day.

Notice inside the white oval that there is a ramp track with a drop-end gondola spotted at it in this view of the freight house. This track appears on the 1909 Sanborn map but not an earlier map. When this track was added is unknown.

8



Assumed building and track layouts through the years. This isn't "etched in stone" but just another assumption based on looking at the photos & drawings available to us & known to exist at this time.

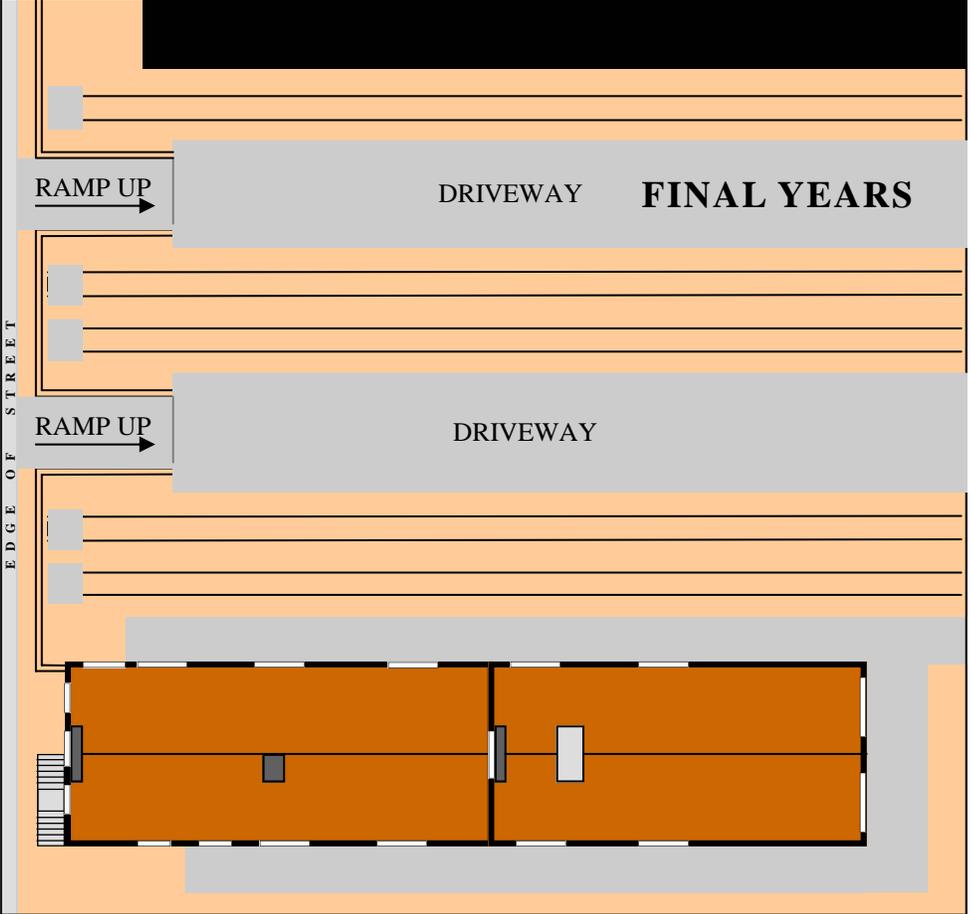


The plans above and at right are an approximation based on the few photos that we have found of the Freight House in Latrobe, PA. Notice that in the original building's floor plan, tracks have been laid into the building and are accessed through the large end doors seen in the **1853 drawing [2]** & **1920 photo [3]** on page 10 showing the Freight House early in its life.

At first it was thought that the drawing might be accurate or at least close but then just before we went to press, a second drawing of the same scene but dated 1851, which predates the first by two years (**1851 vs. 1853**), was found to show that the building was full-length from the start.

The loading dock across the end of the building and the extension which disappears from view to the right along the tracks appears to have been added after the interior tracks were pulled up.

Originally, all the tracks had a bumpers made with a post and rails which were inclined up at an angle and attached to the top of the post. Occasionally freight cars apparently got past these bumpers and out into the street! About 1910 the PRR constructed several extremely overbuilt, large new concrete bumpers at the end of each track. (One bumper still exists to this day!)



The personnel door at the end of the building appears to have been moved from the location as originally built - centered with equal height windows flanking it - to the right side with two unequal height windows to its left, the larger window being the original door's location.

It also appears that the elevation of the street has been dropped by

4-5 feet to allow the street to pass under a new bridge requiring the tracks themselves to be raised several feet thus eliminating a grade crossing here. Because of this decrease in street elevation, new steps needed to be built to allow access to the new door. At least 6 more steps were needed (10 total) to gain enough elevation to get to the door from the street.

2005 SER CONVENTION

BARN CONTEST

2005 SER CONVENTION

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Robert L. McIntyre  
President

155 Fox Grape Lane  
Alpharetta, GA 30022

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Fax: 770-949-3423  
robert.mcintyre@sp.com

12/05

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President

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Hinton Division

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Devaney  
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9/05

JOHNSTOWN & GERRYVILLE

John Travis      Norcross, GA

6/05

NO SCALE, STANDARD GAUGE

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SCOTTGPERRY@DELPHIA.NET

4/06

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5/05

**PIKE REGISTRY**

\$16 / 4 ISSUES

**1/18th PAGE**

Need some HELP with your model railroading? Why not give us a call! Get assistance with wiring, benchwork, scenery, locomotive repair, and even DCC! The service is free for all NMRA members, so give it a try!

Member Aid Chairman  
Charles Brown, MMR  
3 Springbrooke Trail, Dallas, GA 30157  
(770) 943-5280  
charliebrown@mindspring.com

**KLS**

**Keheley Lake Southern**  
Connecting Routes with  
Rex & Clayton Southern  
and Shamrock Southern

Len Polinsky      General Manager  
Mike Callahn, MMR      Design Engineer

lenpolinsky@bellsouth.net

5/2005

2005 SER CONVENTION

BARN CONTEST

2005 SER CONVENTION

BARN CONTEST

2005 SER CONVENTION

BARN CONTEST

# UPCOMING EVENTS

This is a list of all upcoming events that have been sent to the **SouthErneR**. Please submit info on your events occurring within the next year to the **SouthErneR** prior to the next deadline. Send new information, modifications, or corrections to: **Melvin G. Sheppers at: melmania@bellsouth.net**

## NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

**2005 July 3-9 NMRA Convention: Cincinnati, OH**  
Cincinnati Limited 2005 hosted by Division 7 MCR, NMRA  
Info: Roy Hord, 6526 Hollowview Ct.,  
Liberty Twp., Ohio 45011 Phone: (513) 777-5337 or  
*rhord@fuse.net* Website: [www.cincy-div7.org](http://www.cincy-div7.org)

2006 NMRA Convention: Philadelphia, PA  
2007 NMRA Convention: Detroit, MI  
2008 NMRA Convention: Anaheim, CA  
2009 NMRA Convention: Hartford, CT

## REGION CONVENTIONS

**2005 SER May 27, 28, 29 Montgomery, AL**  
Phil Hutchinson at: 334-272-1923 or by  
Email at: [philip\\_hutchinson@msn.com](mailto:philip_hutchinson@msn.com)  
*info@camrrc.org*

**MER Oct. 28—30 Cary, NC**  
Website: <http://trainweb.org/cpd13/mer05>

**2006 SER June 9, 10, 11 Memphis, TN**  
Hosted by: Memphis Society of Model Railroaders,  
Bluff City Division, NMRA  
Whispering Woods Hotel & Conference Center,  
11200 E. Goodman Road, Olive Branch, MS  
(10 minutes south of Memphis)  
**Website:** [www.msrmr.name](http://www.msrmr.name)  
Or call: Mike Fleming 901-461-7138 or  
Greg Scharfetter 901-377-8094

**2007 SER Atlanta, GA**

## DIVISION MEETS

**Land O'Sky Division - Regular Meeting**  
First Thursday of Every Month, All Souls  
Cathedral in Biltmore, NC, 7:00 pm. Until Concluded.

**Piedmont Division - Regular Meeting**  
2nd Tuesday of Every Month, Elks Lodge,  
1775 Montreal Rd., Tucker (Atlanta - East Side)

**Smoky Mountain Division—Regular Meeting**  
1st & 3rd Sunday of every month  
Children's Museum of Oak Ridge  
Oak Ridge, TN  
3 - 5 pm work or operating sessions  
5 pm business meeting 1st Sunday

**Steel City Division - Regular Meeting**  
Third Thursday of Every Month,  
Southside Branch  
Public Library at 7:00 pm.  
1814 11th Avenue South, Birmingham, AL

## LOCAL SHOWS & EVENTS (Date Order by State)

- *Alabama* -

- *Georgia* -

**September 24, 2005 Tucker (Atlanta)**  
**Third Semi-Annual Auction**  
Elks Lodge, 1775 Montreal Road, Tucker, GA  
Contact: Howard Goodwin (770) 529-2103  
*horn69@bellsouth.net*

**November—Every weekend during the month**  
Multiple Layout Open House Tour  
Info at: [www.piedmontpilgrimage.com](http://www.piedmontpilgrimage.com)

- *Florida* -

**April 16, 2005 Pensacola**  
West Florida Railroad Museum is holding their Spring  
Open House and Model Railroading Swap Meet.  
Contact: Ed Dice (850) 455-1313 or  
*EdwardDice@aol.com*

- *Mississippi* -

- *North Carolina* -

**October 8, 2005 Flat Rock (Hendersonville)**  
**10 AM—3 PM Autumn Rails 2005**  
**6th Annual Model Railroad Show & Swap Meet**  
Sponsored by: French Broad e'N'pire Ntrak Club  
Website: [www.fbe-ntrak.com](http://www.fbe-ntrak.com)  
Bonclarken Assembly Auditorium, Blue Ridge Road,  
Flat Rock (Hendersonville), NC  
Admission: Teens & Adults - \$4, Under 13 - Free  
Dealer Tables - \$25 (8' tables) Dealers contact:  
Chuck Place, PO Box 456, Lake Lure, NC 28746  
Email: *hmp3@blueridge.net* Phone: 828-685-2726

- *South Carolina* -

**Saturday, April 30, 2005**  
A meet is in the works for members of the Palmetto Division  
(and adjacent divisions, also) , to be held in the auditorium of  
the Allen Bennett Memorial Hospital in Greer, SC. Swap  
meet/clinics/layout tours are planned.  
Info: William E. Alverson (864) 877-0432 or  
*wealverson@juno.com*

- *Tennessee* -

**April 24, 2005 Townsend**  
Family picnic for members of the Smokey Mountain  
Division For details contact:  
Larry Burkholder (865) 408-9903  
*labtexan@charter.net*  
[www.LittleRiverRailroad.org](http://www.LittleRiverRailroad.org)



Volunteer Opportunities - All Aboard for:

## Locomotion in the Garden!

Garden Railway and other model train enthusiasts are invited to join the **Atlanta Botanical Garden** volunteer team for our next summer blockbuster: Locomotion in the Garden, Trains Across Georgia.

Designed by renowned Landscape Architect Paul Busse, owner of Applied Imagination, the 3200 square foot installation will feature 7 G-Scale trains running on ¼ mile of track. The immersive environment will feature dramatic landscaping and approximately 30 buildings constructed entirely of twigs, leaves, berries, grasses, and other natural materials. Trains and visitors alike will traverse bridges and tunnels. The exhibit's focal point will be a series of trestles spanning 60 feet across the Aquatic Plant Pond. Join us for this exciting adventure!

A special Locomotion in the Garden training will take place on Tuesday, March 29, 6:30-9:00PM OR Saturday, April 2, 9:30PM -Noon; \$5 members, \$7 non-members. Attendance at one session only is required. For details and registration, please contact:

Mary Woehrel, Volunteer Manager, 404/591-1548 or  
*mwoehrel@atlantabotanicalgarden.org*



## Rails to Raleigh (MER)

On behalf of Dave Lyman our division superintendent, John Wallis our convention co-chairman and all of the members of the Carolina Piedmont Division 13, we would heartily like to invite each and all to the **2005 MER Convention** that will be held **October 27—30** at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Cary, North Carolina.

The Raleigh Durham area is rich in railroad history, back to the days when the area was know as Tobacco Road. Throughout the first three quarters of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century tobacco was king. The Research Triangle is now king. Durham was a major manufacturing area for tobacco products, thanks to the Dukes. This meant a large number of carloads of incoming tobacco and outgoing finished products. At that time we were served by five railroads, Southern, Norfolk and Western, Norfolk Southern Railway, Seaboard Airline and the Duke family's own Durham and Southern. The D&S was built by the Dukes to go from Durham to Dunn, NC to be able to get better shipping rates from the Atlantic Coast Line. Today, the Norfolk Southern and CSX serve the area. Parts of the old lines are still in operation but other sections have long since been removed. Passenger service is provided by Amtrak and the State of North Carolina. In the high tech age, we forget about the old dirt roads that were so aptly named Tobacco Roads.

Now that we have had a short history lesson, let's get to what the convention will be about. **All of the convention events will be held at the Embassy Suites which is conveniently located just off Interstate 40 in Cary, NC.** Being an Embassy Suites, a full breakfast is included in the hotel guest registration fee.

For the prototype enthusiasts we have some special events:

- **Friday** (As an extra fare) we have made arrangements with the NC Department of Transportation to provide us with transportation on NCDOT's **Piedmont** from Cary to the old **Southern Spencer Shops**, which is now the **NC Transportation Museum**. The shops were founded in 1896 and are about half way between Washington, DC and Atlanta. Southern RR did all of its major repairs in Spencer until 1960. At its peak during WW 2 Spencer employed nearly 3000 people.

The Southern donated the shops and 57 acres to the State of North Carolina and it was turned into the State Transportation Museum. The museum has one of the few operating roundhouses left in the US. You will be able to tour the whole area, ride trains and go to the Little Choo Choo Model Railroad Shop to spend some of your hard earned hobby dollars. A lunch will be provided at Spencer. Then in the evening you will board the **Piedmont** for the return trip to Cary. If we get enough people to sign up NCDOT will provide us with our own car that will be attached to the scheduled **Piedmont** service

- **Saturday** we will have two choices, one choice is to go to the **NC State Transportation passenger car yard** in Raleigh, and the other is to go to Bonsal, NC to ride on the **New Hope Valley RR** which is operated by a chapter of the National Railroad Historical Society. There will also be an extra fare option for people who want to actually become an engineer and operate a real 1 to 1 locomotive. This will be on a first come first serve basis.

**Layout Tours:** The area will be divided up on all three days. At present we have 25 layouts committed. They are from Live Steam to N scale. Some of the layouts are well known such as Jack Frame's Monon which has appeared in the RR press and Rick Allen's modular Great Appalachian Railway that has appeared at many State Fairs throughout the country. The CCLS live steam layout that is located at Apex on around 10 acres of ground. It includes a round house and a transfer table, along with long runs throughout the property. Club layouts, individual home layouts and Garden RR's (hopefully we will be able to show some pictures) are all part of the program. Several of our members have also agreed to provide operating sessions on their layouts. This will be an extra fare to cover the transportation to the individual's homes.

**Clinics:** These are presently being lined up and we hope to have in excess of 20 clinics. We will also have extra fare clinics on DCC and Scenery.

**Non Rail Events:** There are several malls located close by. In addition, for people that like flowers there is the Duke Gardens along with the Duke Homestead (includes a museum on the history of Tobacco in the US) and Bennett Place in the Durham area. Raleigh being our state capitol has many historic buildings as well as several museums. There is also an IMAX theater in downtown Raleigh.

**Train Show:** Another big event is on Saturday and Sunday we will have a train show at the Embassy Suites along with the North Raleigh N scalers modular layout and Randy Constanza's Keystone Metal works modular Steel mill complex. The NTRAK layout will be configured so attendees can participate in an operating session. The train show is free to registered conventioners and we hope to have around 70 tables from various manufacturers and local hobby shops.

Last but not least we will hold the following events:

- Model contest with achievement program judging
- Annual meeting of MER
- Friday night \*Live\* auction
- Silent auction
- Company Store

- A club car—a D & S hopper—will be available for sale
- Raffle including the right to operate the NHV diesel engine.

The "Rails to Raleigh" web site can be found at:

<http://trainweb.org/cpd13/mer05>

Remember that in October, in Raleigh, it is still warm enough to get outside and play some golf. Hopefully we will see some of you from the SER in the Tar Heel State come next October.

*Editor's Note: As many of you living in the northern and eastern parts of the SER are within a fairly short driving distance from this MER convention, I have placed this promo here to inform you of an event you may be interested in attending that is being put on by a sister region.*

**National Model Railroad Association**

**Southeastern Region  
Convention**

May 27, 28, 29, 2005

**Holiday Inn, Montgomery East I-85  
1185 Eastern Boulevard  
Montgomery, Alabama 36117  
Ph. 334-272-0370**

**Full Registration \$90  
(before 4/15/05)**

\$100 after April 15, 2005

**Achievement Judging, Model Contests, Layout Tours, Clinics, Award Banquet. Bring an entry for Achievement Program assessment or exhibition. Vote for your Favorite Models**

Train Show at:  
Alcazar Shriners Temple  
555 Eastern Boulevard  
(3 minutes by Auto from Holiday Inn)

Dealer Tables-Company Store-Modular Layouts

Friday-12pm-8pm (Registration, Clinics)  
Saturday-8am-6pm (Banquet 6-10)  
Sunday-9am-12pm (Breakfast 8-10)  
& (Annual Meeting 10-12)

For More Information Contact

**Phil Hutchinson  
(334) 272-1923**

[philip\\_hutchinson@msn.com](mailto:philip_hutchinson@msn.com)

or

[info@camrrc.org](mailto:info@camrrc.org)

**Dixie Division**  
**SouthEastern Region/ NMRA Convention**  
**Registration Form**  
**May 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> in Montgomery, AL**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

NMRA # \_\_\_\_\_ SER # \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Badge \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Rail Attendees \_\_\_\_\_

**Regular Registration** Mailed before 4/15/05 \$90 x \_\_\_\_\_ =\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mailed AFTER 4/15/05 \$100x \_\_\_\_\_ =\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**One Day Fri. or Sat. Registration** NO BANQUET \$50x \_\_\_\_\_ =\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Non NMRA Registration** ADD \$30x \_\_\_\_\_ =\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Non-Rail Registration** Mailed before 4/15/05 \$50x \_\_\_\_\_ =\$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Spouse, Children over 12)

Mailed AFTER 4/15/05 \$55x \_\_\_\_\_ =\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Banquet:** Beef: \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken: \_\_\_\_\_ Fish: \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian: \_\_\_\_\_

To Reserve hotel accommodations contact  
Holiday Inn Montgomery East I-85 at 334-272-1923  
Identify yourself as SER/NMRA to get convention discount.  
Rates valid until April 15<sup>th</sup> 2005

**Make checks payable to: Dixie Div. 05 Convention**  
Mail to: Cent. Al. Model RR Club,  
PO Box 681745,  
Prattville, AL 36067

**For information e-mail: philip\_hutchinson@msn.com**  
**or call: 334-272-1923**



# Barn Contest Rules

Barn Contest Rules as approved by SER Contest Chairman Carey Jenkins:

*The Barn Contest will be judged by popular vote and NO paperwork will be necessary. You can also enter it in the NMRA contest or have your model(s) judged for Merit awards by simply including the standard NMRA contest entry forms. For those wanting to enter it in the NMRA contest it would go in the Off-Line Displays category.*

The following items must be included on the scenedic display to be considered for this special contest. Display sizes are shown below.

1. A barn, not a shed, corn crib or chicken house. Definition of a barn: A large farm building used for storing farm products and sheltering livestock. We are talking about a real barn type building, but the design, style and size is up to you.
2. Two other buildings must be include in the display. Some suggestions are: outhouse, chicken coop, corn crib, pump house, farm house, wind mill, etc...
3. Three people and one animal must be included, more can be added if you like.
4. There must be at least one vehicle.
5. There must be proper ground texture and at least one tree.
6. There must be at least one sign, graphic or letting somewhere.
7. There must be some water on the display somewhere. Examples: bucket with water in it, pond, creek, water trough for animals, puddle on the ground, etc...

Sizes for all scales are as follows:

- Z = 4"x4"
- N = 6"x6"
- HO = 12"x12"
- S = 18"x18"
- O = 24"x24"
- G (1:20-1:32) = 36"x36"



*Anything else you are on your own, but if it fits in with the theme above it will most likely be accepted. Also, for those that have a fear of barns you can substitute a similar sized building as long as you follow all the other rules as listed above.*

Pat Turner, Pres. CSRR  
candsn3@mindspring.com  
<http://www.CedarSpringsRR.com>



## SOUTH EASTERN REGION DIRECTORY

### OFFICERS

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