



# The Carolina Piedmont Herald

Newsletter of the Carolina Piedmont Division, MER, NMRA

April 2012

## Next Division Meeting

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

**NOTE NEW LOCATION and DATE!**

St. Michael Archangel Centre & Gallery  
830 High House Road  
Cary, North Carolina

Directions are available at the link below.

<http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/info.html#meetings>

**6:30 PM – Board of Directors Meeting**  
**7:00 PM – Membership Meeting**

### Popular Vote Contest

**Sponsored by Kim Parker of Train Buddy  
Hobby Shop**

**April – Small Business Trackside or Not**

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Region of the NMRA

The Carolina Piedmont Herald is published monthly by the Carolina Piedmont Division, Mid-Eastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association **Submissions:** Please send news items, inquiries and comments to the Editor of the Herald by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month:

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919-718-0368 - 919-721-8757 cell

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the author of each article or the Editor of the Carolina Piedmont Herald and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Carolina Piedmont Division.

## Membership Barometer

Division Membership	135
<a href="http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/">http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/</a>	
Yahoo Group Members	93
<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cpd13/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cpd13/</a>	
Attendance 3/28/12	24+ 1 guest

## April Program

Wiring

Kim Parker

This clinic is targeted at every level of model railroader. We will be zooming in on the successful wiring schemes and addressing the pitfalls of others. We will discuss in some depth, the following wiring subjects: gauge and type, terminal strips, organization and dressing, planning, labeling, command buses, switch machines, signals, lighting, transformers, switches, panels, indirect task lights, soldering, and must-have troubleshooting tools. There will be a multi-page handout for your notes and we will be looking for verification (both good and bad) from those with experience.

## Financial Report

By Jerry Mersch, Paymaster

March 2012

Balance In Checking 2/29/12	\$7,826.09
<u>Income</u>	
Total	\$0.0
<u>Expenses</u>	
March Refreshments	\$ 15.86
Domain Name Renewal	\$ 8.31
Total	\$ 24.17
Balance In Checking 2/29/12	\$7,801.92

## Board of Directors

*Superintendent (term ending January 2014)*

**Grif Bond**, Wake Forest, 919-556-7066  
[grifbond@embarqmail.com](mailto:grifbond@embarqmail.com)

*Assistant Superintendent (term January 2014)*

**Jim Murphy**, Cary, 919-460-7763  
[berkshireshort@yahoo.com](mailto:berkshireshort@yahoo.com)

*Division Clerk (term ending January 2014)*

**Jack Dziadul**, Sanford, 919-721-8757  
[dziadul@windstream.net](mailto:dziadul@windstream.net)

*Division Paymaster (term ending January 2014)*

**Jerry Mersch**, Cary, 919-815-3528  
[jbmswow@nc.rr.com](mailto:jbmswow@nc.rr.com)

*Director (term ending in January 2013)*

**Vic Bitleris**, Raleigh, 919-870-7558  
[vbitleris@nc.rr.com](mailto:vbitleris@nc.rr.com)

*Director (term ending in January 2014)*

**Rob Rousseau**, Holly Springs, 919-368-0586  
[railroad@nc.rr.com](mailto:railroad@nc.rr.com)

*Director (term ending in January 2015)*

**Steve Milley**, Garner, 248-421-6276  
[rsmilley@yahoo.com](mailto:rsmilley@yahoo.com)

## Coming Events

N & S Historical Society Annual Meeting  
 Fort Story, VA April 21st, 2012  
[www.norfolksouthernhs.org/](http://www.norfolksouthernhs.org/)

June 1-3, 2012  
 SER Convention, Gatlinburg, TN  
<http://ser-nmra.org/convention/2012-gatlinburg-convention>

October 11-13, 2012  
 The Fine Scale Model Railroader Expo  
 Strasburg, PA  
[www.modelrailroadexpo.com](http://www.modelrailroadexpo.com)

### NMRA National Conventions

2012	7/29 - 8/4	Grand Rapids, MI
2013	7/14 - 7/20	Atlanta, GA
2014	7/13 - 7/20	Cleveland, OH
2015	8/23 - 8/30	Portland, OR

### MER Convention Host Calendar

2012	10/18 - 10/21	Milepost 40 Suffolk, VA <a href="http://www.nmra-mer-tidewater.org/Convention/convention.html">http://www.nmra-mer-tidewater.org/Convention/convention.html</a>
2013	Potomac / Chesapeake	

*Editor's note - Before traveling any distance to an event listed, it is recommended you verify the event is still scheduled by checking the event's web site or calling the local contact.*

## Monthly Contests

April	Small Business Trackside or Not
May	Diorama with People/town/station /scenery
June	Famous Locomotives

## Program Topics

April	<b>Kim Parker</b>	Wiring
May	<b>Rob Rousseau</b>	Modeling the Durham & Southern
June	Building Locomotives - Prototype vs. Models - Size Matters	

## Refreshment Hosts

April	<b>Jamie Jordan</b>
May	<b>Jim Babcock</b>
June	<b>Dan Fisher</b>
July	<b>your name goes here</b>

## CPD Meeting Calendar

Tuesday night's monthly 2012  
 6:30 PM Board / 7:00 PM General Meeting

April 25*	May 22	June 26
July 24	August 28	September 25
October 23	November 13	December 11

\*Wednesday

## For Sale

Norfolk Southern 40' box cars HO scale.

The price is \$15 each and \$50 for a 4 car set to non-division members, \$12.50 each and \$40 for division members. There are about 70 left. To purchase see John Janosko or email [johnajan@embarqmail.com](mailto:johnajan@embarqmail.com).

## Working with the Dispatcher – Part 4

Stephen C. Wood

Readers who have followed this series have arrived at the point at which a train returns to the yard where it started. If this occurs near the end of the operating session, that train will probably be put into a staging area. It will be picked up again at the start of the next session. At this point, the engineer hands his car cards to the yardmaster: he needs these to do his job. Time permitting, the train crews will begin breaking up that train to classify the cars and assign them to their next trains. It is for this purpose that it is essential to surrender the cards upon arrival at the termination point.

When entering a yard, the engineer should always ask the yardmaster where to stop. It is often best to be told where the caboose or final car should end its journey. In any event, the engineer who has looked at his cards and remembers pertinent information can tell the yardmaster how many setouts he is bringing to that facility. The yardmaster, who knows the railroad better than any of its engineers, has already begun the mental process of classification and reassembly.

Always ask permission to enter a train yard. Ask where to stop, and be sure to stop at the yard limit before proceeding. These are combinations of courtesy and yard safety. Occasionally, the yardmaster will uncouple your engine and then issue directions for your movement. From that point forward, the yard crew is responsible for your cars. An alternate scenario is for the yardmaster to uncouple the engine, send it to the rear and have it pick up the caboose.

The engineer may now receive a new set of cards, indicating cars to be picked up and their destination. The engineer must remember to **keep the cards in train order**. Now the dispatcher is called and will be informed that the yardmaster is done with this engineer: the dispatcher is the person who gives further order to continue on whatever way is appropriate.

Wherever he is at the end of these procedures, the engineer must be certain that the dispatcher knows where he is and where he has been! If that engineer is through for the current operating session, he places his cards in the appointed box or on a clothespin, and informs the dispatcher that his work is done. At this point, the engineer may wish to speak with other club members about what he has been doing and to ask advice or opinions. In so doing, he should **never** distract another operator who is working. At the end of a session the owner or club president or trainmaster may wish to hold a general session to discuss that day's operations. Interface with other engineers at this point in time, which may yield information about additional layouts where visiting operators may work and learn. Invitations to other points frequently follow such conversation.

When it is time to leave, a visiting engineer should **always** make a point of thanking the owner for the privilege. It is also proper to ask whether this engineer might come again. One absolute critical factor governing the reply is often the question, **did this visitor make a point of working with the dispatcher and kept him informed at all times?** I hope that the answer to that question as well as the return question is, **YES**.

In addition, this is the end of the series I have been writing about for the past few months. I hope everyone has enjoyed this series and I have said something that has helped someone.

## Welcome New Members

<b>Christopher DeBruin</b>	Raleigh
<b>David Johnson</b>	Cary
<b>Kevin Schimelfenig</b>	Raleigh

# Meeting Minutes

## Carolina Piedmont Division 13

March 28, 2012

Attendance: **Grif Bond, Vic Bitleris, Jerry Mersch, Jack Dziadul, Rob Rousseau, Steve Milley**

### Board of Directors Meeting

1. Review and approval of minutes – February 2012

Jerry Mersch motion with Rob Rousseau second.

2. Paymaster's report for February and the year to date budget versus expenditures were reviewed and approved on motion of Rob Rousseau with Vic Bitleris second.

3. IRS – Jerry Mersch will check into required filings.

4. Audit Committee – Rob Rousseau and John Porter will review books tonight.

5. 2011 MER annual report – Grif Bond will prepare the annual report for review at the next Board meeting.

6. MER roster certification was completed and submitted by Grif Bond.

7. Insurance – Grif Bond sent an inquiry to John Roberts regarding officers and directors insurance.

8. Other business

a) Vic Bitleris raised the issue of a FastTracks investment by CPD. Consideration would need to be given to different scales, frog sizes, managing the inventory, as well as cost. No action taken.

b) MER will be sending a \$315 check to Grif Bond. Jerry Mersch will bring cash to the April meeting for the convention volunteer reimbursements.

c) Jerry Mersch raised the issue of a contest building kit. Jerry will check for sales of kits under \$10

d) Rob Rousseau expended \$8.31 for domain name renewed for one year.

e) Steve Milley discussed donation of sectional layout. Steve will research further.

f) Jack Dziadul will miss the April meeting. Rob Rousseau will take the April minutes.

### Business Meeting

Grif Bond reviewed the Board of Directors meeting.

- MER rebates will be paid at the April meeting.
- April meeting is Wednesday April 25th, after which we will return to the regular Tuesday schedule.
- Grif Bond reminded members to vote for National election.
- AP Report - Vic Bitleris
  - Rob Rousseau will soon receive the Golden Spike and the Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical Certificate.
  - Stephen Wood will soon be receiving the following AP certificates:
    - Master Builder - Structures
    - Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical
    - Master Builder - Scenery
    - Author
- Refreshments volunteers
  - Jim Babcock May
  - Dan Fisher June
- Grif Bond discussed having another kit contest. A show of hands indicated sufficient interest to proceed.

- Kim Parker will present the April program with the subject being "Wiring".
- The contest winner was Rob Rousseau.



**HAVE 50 MODEL RAILROADING CLINICS RIGHT IN YOUR LIVING ROOM.**

Just because you can't make it to a national convention doesn't mean you have to miss out. Right now the NMRA's Kalmbach Memorial Library has over 50 DVDs of clinics presented at national conventions from 2002 to 2010. Each is available for NMRA members to borrow for the cost of processing and postage.

So you can see clinics on everything from decoders to design, tools to techniques, helixes to highways, and research to resin casting.

All from the comfort of your very own couch.

Visit [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) and go to the Kalmbach Memorial Library page for a complete listing. Or call the Library at 423-894-8144.



**We make it even more fun.**  
www.nmra.org

Then, get that popcorn ready.

**Train Word Puzzles**

**Dr. Charles Wood**

Fifth installment in a series

Solutions can be found on the last page.

O O C E A S B

R R F E E E

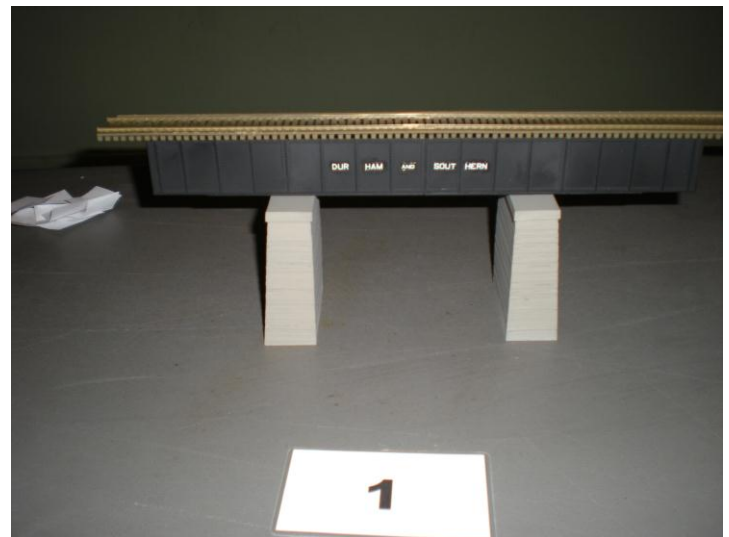
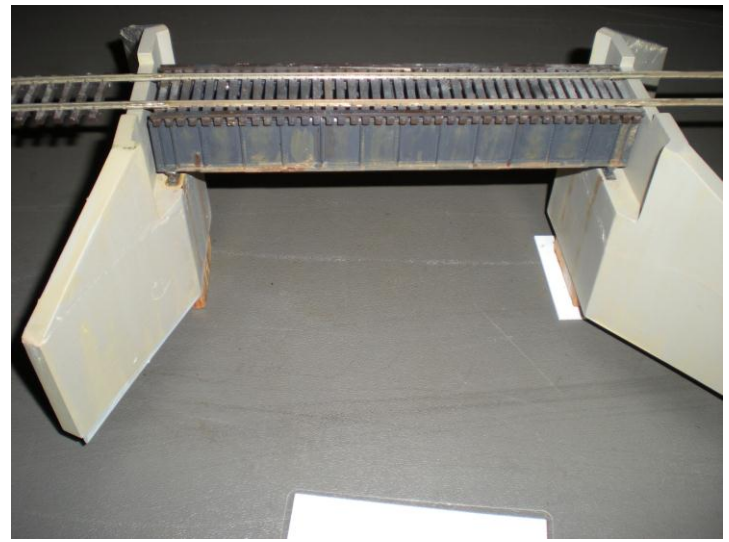
L H H B I L G A

A D L G N O O

N I I I V O D S

**Operations Opportunities**

Jack Frame's Monon HO scale DCC  
Second and third Friday evening slots available.  
Sign on for one or both evenings.



Above: Rob Rousseau's winning bridge contest entry. Jack Dziadul photo



## Mr. Cheap

Jack Dziadul

My Texas friends like to brag on their pecan pies. So at Christmas when they send treats to me at the office I say to my colleagues, "You can eat the pie so long as I can have the box." These well-crafted and sturdy little boxes have numerous applications and the price is right.



Mock-ups anyone?

## Word Puzzle Answers

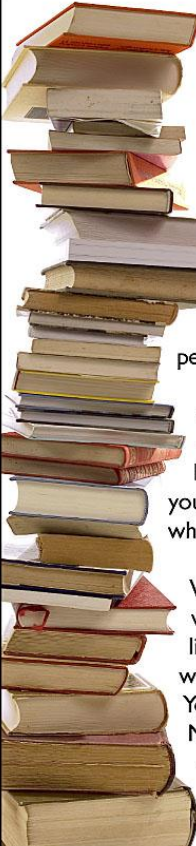
Solutions: caboose, reefer, highball, gondola, division

## From The Business Car

Grif Bond, Superintendent

I would like to congratulate **Rob Rousseau** and **Stephen Wood** for their great Achievement Program progress. Both should soon have additional AP certificates. **Gene Sing** is also well on his way to additional certificates. Our first two MMRs have long ago moved out of our division, but we should soon have three new CPD Master Model Railroaders.

**Kim Parker** has a great clinic planned for the April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. No matter what your skill level or status of completion of your layout this is a clinic not to be missed. We'll see you on Wednesday at 7 PM. And don't forget to bring a small business model for the contest.




### Check out 6,000 train books.

Or 100,000 train photos. Or 50,000 train magazines. In fact, there are a lot of things you should be checking out at the National Model Railroad Association's Kalmbach Memorial Library. You'll find everything from prototype railroad periodicals to vintage model kit instructions.

As an NMRA member, you have easy access to everything – it's all just a phone call, letter, or email away. Our staff will even help you do research about virtually any train topic, whether it's model or prototype.

Visit one of the world's largest train libraries at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org). You'll find that the NMRA has a lot to offer modelers.

Check it all out!



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