

The Carolina Piedmont Herald

Newsletter of the Carolina Piedmont Division, MER, NMRA

Next Division Meeting

Tuesday, August 28, 2012 St. Michael Archangel Centre & Gallery 830 High House Road Cary, North Carolina

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

> Popular Vote Contest Sponsored by Kim Parker of Train Buddy Hobby Shop

August – Any styrene structure or rolling stock

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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 15th of the month**:

Jack Dziadul, Clerk and Editor dziadul@windstream.net 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 Membership133http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/Yahoo Group Members97http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cpd13/Meeting Attendance 7/24/1224 members

In the Press

Congratulations to **Steve Benezra** and **Dil Huey** for their article "Pic-A-Path Circuit Module" published in the August issue of the NMRA Magazine.

Remembering Joe Getz

August 2012

by Grif Bond, Superintendent

Division member Joe Getz of Fayetteville, NC died Tuesday, August 21, 2012. Joe was a Life Member of the National Model Railroad Association and he joined the NMRA in January 1969. Joe was an active member in the Carolina Piedmont Division and participated in a number of projects over the years including helping to build raffle layouts and staffing the Division booth at the annual NRV train show. He also volunteered for other projects. He was one of the top winners in the Division's "supply house" special modeling contest as pictured below.



Joe was always very friendly and cordial. At every Division meeting he asked how I was doing. He always stuck out his hand to greet you. We'll all miss Joe.

Remembering Joe Getz

by Steve Milley

A few words of my memories of Joe: I was fortunate to get to know Joe during the last few years as we became friends in the CPD13 activities. He was our "go to guy" for installation of the Caboose Industries ground throws on our Raffle Layout during the last two years. It was a joy to have Joe at my house working on track work & ground throws, adding ground cover, and occasionally poking at the rest of us who weren't working hard enough!

It was always a pleasure to run into Joe at different train shows in the area - as it seems he was at ALL the local train shows - talking to everyone, and making new friends. Joe had a lot of friends, and he always had someone to introduce me to.

Speaking of Joe's friends, I was amazed at how Joe could make a new friend in an instant simply by flashing his warm smile and engaging them in а friendly conversation. remember the time Joe, Gene, & I went for lunch at the local Chic-Filet during one of our Raffle Layout build Saturdays. Joe made a wry comment to the very nice hostess who was asking us about refills for our drinks... in an instant they were off into some friendly conversation. Later, I asked him if he knew her... His answer, "No, but I do now!".

That's how I will remember Joe... a real pleasure to be around... and a good friend. He will be greatly missed.

Arrangements

Retired Army Lt. Col. Robert Joseph "Joe" Getz, 72, of Fayetteville, died Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2012. Services: Funeral, 3 p.m. Sunday in Camp Ground United Methodist Church. Burial in Lafayette Memorial Park. Visitation, 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday at Jernigan-Warren Funeral Home in Fayetteville, 2 to 3 p.m. Sunday at the church. Survived by: Wife, Eleanore; daughter, Deborah Sims; son, Jeffrey; sisters, Nancy and Connie. There is an online guest book for sharing stories and providing condolences:

http://www.legacy.com/questbooks/fayettevilleobserver/questbooks.aspx?n=robert-getz&pid=159366348&cid=full







August Program

Operations Rob Westdyke

Financial Report

By Jerry Mersch, Paymaster

July 2012

Balance In Checking 6/30/12	\$7,	655.58
<u>Income</u> Coaling tower kits Total	\$ \$	5.00 5.00
<u>Expenses</u> July refreshments Bank service fee Total	\$ <u>\$</u> \$	15.88 <u>2.00</u> 17.88
Balance In Checking 7/31/12	\$7	,642.70

White Elephant Sale

Here Yea, here Yea! Announcing the "more or less" annual CPD member white elephant sale. Any model railroad item that you would like to sell to a fellow member should be brought to the August 28th meeting. Tables will be available beginning at 6 PM. Be sure to label each item with your price and your name.

The Name Game

Please wear your name tag to each meeting. See **Grif Bond** if you need to order one.

CPD Meeting Calendar

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

August 28 September 25 October 23 November 13 December 11

FOR FREE - Train Table

The table top measures 4' x 8' and is solid wood, with rounded corners and painted a soft green color. It fits perfectly on top of two standard size collapsible banquet tables, sideby-side or on a pool table or on saw horses. It can also be used as a racetrack. Contact: **Rob Rousseau** 919-368-0586, <u>railroad@nc.rr.com</u>





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@embargmail.com.

Board of Directors

Superintendent (term ending January 2014) Grif Bond, Wake Forest, 919-556-7066 grifbond@embarqmail.com

Assistant Superintendent (term January 2014) Jim Murphy, Cary, 919-460-7763 berkshireshort@yahoo.com

Division Clerk (term ending January 2014) Jack Dziadul, Sanford, 919-721-8757 dziadul@windstream.net

Division Paymaster (term ending January 2014) Jerry Mersch, Cary, 919-815-3528 jbmswow@nc.rr.com

Director (term ending in January 2013) Vic Bitleris, Raleigh, 919-870-7558 vbitleris@nc.rr.com

Director (term ending in January 2014) **Rob Rousseau**, Holly Springs, 919-368-0586 <u>railroad@nc.rr.com</u>

Director (term ending in January 2015) Steve Milley, Garner, 248-421-6276 rsmilley@yahoo.com

Coming Events

August 28, 2012 CPD White Elephant Sale

October 11-13, 2012 The Fine Scale Model Railroader Expo Strasburg, PA <u>www.modelrailroadexpo.com</u>

November 3-4, 2012 Neuse River Valley Train Show State Fair Grounds, Raleigh, NC <u>http://www.nrvshow.org/</u>

January 26-27, 2013 Amherst Railway Society West Springfield, MA http://www.railroadhobbyshow.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 http://www.nmra-mer-tidewater.org/Convention/convention.html 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

August	Any Styrene Structure or Rolling
	Stock
September	any New England theme model.
October	Pacific / K-4 / 4-6-2 locomotives
November	Rolling stock from a railroad in the south
December	No contest – Yankee swap gift exchange
March 2013	Coal Tower Diorama

Program Topics

August	Operations – Rob Westdyke	
September	Boston and Maine's Eastern	
	Route	
	Jack Dziadul	
October	Pennsy Steam – John Sokash	
November	NC Transportation Museum –	
Steve Mersch		
December	Yankee Swap Gift Exchange	
January `13	John Wallis' prototype quiz	

Refreshment Hosts

August	Marc Blaustein
September	Vic Bitleris
October	Joel McCurry
November	Stephen Wood
December	Grif Bond
January	your name goes here

HAVE YOU NOTICED LATELY?



By Roger Robar

Have you noticed lately in the model press magazines the *lack of* HO scale models of the late steam or early diesel eras? Yes, there

are a few, but these are mostly re-runs, repaints or even bogus paint schemes. The **exception** to this statement is the new **Fox Valley's** B&O 'Wagontop' boxcar in both HO and N scale. This model is a beauty, far superior to the old resin kits of long ago.

What I observe today is the amount of models that are offered in N and Z scale, both in the late steam era and today's modern era. I believe the popularity for late steam; early diesel era models in Nscale is the fact that N scale manufacturers are playing a 'catch-up game' to satisfy this neglected scale that many N scale modelers want. These models are exactly what they offered HO modelers for years.

What are being offered today are the 'modern' freight cars in both scales. Most of these offerings are outstanding models, in detail, accuracy and painting.

Why do you think this has happened? I believe for two important reasons. First, it is a well-known fact that we model what we saw; we remember those times and those scenes. I hate to admit it but the modelers that model the late steam, early diesel era are "fading away" or in blunt terms fast approaching the end of their lives on this earth. These modelers 'have everything' they will need in freight cars; yes I know, there will always be one more freight car we need, but seriously, we have them all. Second, today's model railroad manufactures are only going to make a model that will sell! Todav's model railroader uses 2nd generation diesels and right up to the very latest large six-axle

locomotives. This is what you see advertised and where the market is today. The manufacturer needs to spend many thousands of dollars to have the dies made to produce a single freight car. They need to sell many to just break even to say nothing about making a profit; thus you see all the modern freight cars advertised in hope you will purchase them. This means the hobby of model railroading will be around tomorrow and well into the future. It also means for some of us that we have to be satisfied with what we have. I have no regrets, I am very happy with what I have model. I am also *extremely* happy at how **electronics** has entered into my model railroad "world." With the Digital advent of Command Control, awesome sound units, superior control capabilities; it is just amazing how far my hobby has advanced since 1952; yep, that is when I started buying Model Railroader magazine.

Classifieds

ATTENTION CPD MEMBERS: Do you have a wanted or an item for sale? Are you looking for carpool options to our meetings, a train show event or options for sharing a hotel room? The Herald will publish a FREE classified section for all CPD members. Send vour classified ad to the Editor at dziadul@windstream.net. The ad must include your full name and contact information and will be limited to one item per issue.

NC RailRun 2012

by **Jack Dziadul**

Rob Rousseau and I were corresponding about the NC RailRun scheduled for October 5-7, 2012. The discussion let me to think that an article for The Herald would be educational and informative to our members as well as promotional for the event. I am an OPSIG member and registered for the NC RailRun 2012 several weeks ago when I read the announcement in "The Dispatcher's Office".

When I think of operations, especially the Operations Special Interest Group (OPSIG), **Steve Benezra** is one of the first names to come to mind. Steve is a CPD member as well as the Editor of the OPSIG's publication "The Dispatcher's Office". So, I made an appointment for a telephone interview with Steve to develop information for this article and additional details of the OPSIG organization as well.

JD: Steve, what is the Operations Special Interest Group?

SB: OPSIG is a 1,200 member (and growing) organization of model railroaders who share a common interest in emulating prototype operations on a model railroad. Members do not need to have a home layout. Many operate on club layouts or the home layouts of other modelers. OPSIG is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.

JD: What is the OPSIG relationship to the NMRA?

SB: OPSIG is one of the many special interest groups within the NMRA. Membership in the NMRA is encouraged, but not required. In fact, guest operators are welcome to participate in some OPSIG sponsored events, such as the NC RailRun without membership in either NMRA or OpSIG. "A significant number of those attending the national NMRA and regional conventions are OPSIG members."

JD: Steve, what are the benefits of OpSIG membership?

SB: For \$7 yearly members receive

- the quarterly journal "The Dispatcher's Office" (\$20 if paper copies of the publication are preferred),
- access to the membership database that provides information on layouts available to guest visits or guest operations throughout the country,
- an industry database with over 40,000 entries,
- numerous articles and power point clinic presentations,
- a new feature is a video section (featuring Dick Genthner's Arpee & Western),
- a calendar of upcoming events,
- plus the camaraderie of networking with old and new friends.

JD: That's not a bad investment for \$7. How do folks join OpSIG?

SB: It's simple. Just go to the web site and complete the form. <u>www.opsig.org</u>

JD: What is the NC RailRun?

SB: The RailRun is an operating weekend that has been held in the fall for the past several years. I believe that it was in 2006 that Michael Pennie of the Carolina Southern Division 12, who is OPSIG Regional Director, started the operations weekend. We had a separate OPSIG weekend at the same approximate time, but further down I-85. Marcus Neubacher has since assumed Michael's responsibility for the NC RailRun. Carolina Southern and the OPSIG have joined forces to combine the events into one weekend in 2011. This year,2012, has an exciting line-up of thirteen layouts from Charlotte to Hillsborough to Raleigh over the October 5 -7 weekend. Descriptions of the layouts and the schedule can be found on this link: http://ncrailrun.blogspot.com.

JD: How do our members sign up for the NC RailRun 2012?

SB: Go the Division 12 web site: http://www.carolinasouthern.org. It's easy. The cost is just \$10 for OpSIG members and \$15 for non-members. You had better hurry though. Eight of the thirteen layouts are already wait-listed!

JD: Thank you Steve. I am looking forward to October.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

(third in a series)



Jack Burgess, MMR Pacific Coast Region AP Chairman

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Statement of Qualifications or SOQs Jack Burgess, MMR Pacific Coast Region AP Chairman

One requirement of all of the categories of the Achievement Program is completion and submittal of a Statement of Qualifications, or SOQ for each application. The basic SOQ includes a description of the work accomplished by the modeler in compliance with the category requirements, and possibly a witness affidavit by two or more NMRA members affirming that the work listed was completed. In some cases, the SOQ must be accompanied by other documentation listing how the category accomplishments were completed.

No one likes paper work, especially when it is related to a hobby effort and doesn't seem to contribute to his or her hobby skills. Paper work is often stated as the sole reason for not participating in the Achievement Program.

However, without this documentation, there is no way to know what a modeler has

done, especially when there are certain standards for participation in the Achievement Program. The Achievement Program is designed to encourage better modeling, increase a modeler's overall skills, and to recognize outstanding work. It is not a program to simply indicate what a modeler has completed - the work must stand above the norm. If a modeler really wants to participate in this program, they need to take the few minutes necessary to complete the required documentation.

Most SOQs can be quite simple to complete. For example, the Master Builder -Cars certificate requires that you build eight operable scale models of railroad cars (with at least four different types of cars represented, each one super-detailed, and at least four of which are scratch-built), and you must score at least 871/2 points on four of the eight models. On the SOQ, you must therefore list these eight models by description (B&O 40' boxcar, etc.) Since you must receive at least 871/2 points for half of the models, the easiest way to satisfy that requirement is to enter them in a divisional or regional modeling contest which uses the standard NMRA scoring system. At Divisional meets and Regional Conventions, models can be entered for scoring purposes only and not in the actual competition if desired. Attaching copies of the model contest judging forms is an easy way to document this portion of the requirements. If you enter all eight models in modeling contests, attaching the model contest judging forms can easily satisfy the entire documentation portion of the requirements by listing the amount of work done, listing the super-detailing effort, etc.

Some AP categories, such as *Master Builder* - *Scenery*, also require that you document how you satisfied the category requirements with a description of the work completed. This can be in a simple outline form if desired.

Status Update From the 2011 CPD13 Raffle Layout Winner By R. Stephen Milley

Do you remember last year's CPD13 raffle layout? It was the 4-piece sectional layout that included a removable mountain section. We displayed the layout at the Piedmont Crossing MER Convention that we hosted in Cary as well as at the annual Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Show. Through the raffle we brought in great proceeds to put towards the CPD13 annual "Holiday Trains for Kids Program". Here are a few pictures of last year's layout to spark your memory.







Photos 1-3: Images of the Completed 2011 CPD13 Raffle Layout

You may remember that Geoff Wood from New Bern, NC, was the winner of the raffle. He had traveled to Cary for the MER convention and purchased his raffle tickets there. As a member of the Carolina Coastal Model Railroad Club in New Bern, he is an experienced model railroader and was quite excited about winning the layout. Here's a picture from last year as Geoff and a couple of friends picked up the layout in Raleigh.



Photo 4: Geoff Wood (on the left) and friends picking up the raffle layout in November 2011.

I've kept in touch with Geoff over the past year to hear about how he's put the layout to use. He was anxious to put some personal touches into his new layout. Recently I received an email from Geoff with the following update and photos:

Steve,

Hope this finds you well. Attached are some photos of some work I have been doing on the raffle layout. As you can see I have replaced the mountain with large industries and modified the track plan and added a few downtown buildings. I have removed all the roads except in the town. What color gray was used to paint the street? I would like to get a match. Thanks, Geoff Wood

The Carolina Piedmont Herald









Photo 5-8: Geoff's Modifications to the Raffle Layout... they sure look good !

Looks like Geoff has made good progress on personalizing his new layout. Thanks for the update Geoff. Feedback like this gets me motivated to build another raffle layout ! We've got a lot of supplies on hand, so maybe 2013 will be the year for a new raffle layout... who wants to participate??!! Just give me a call.

T-Trak Modules



Meeting Minutes

Jack Dziadul

<u>Carolina Piedmont Division 13</u> July 24, 2012

Attendance: Grif Bond, Vic Bitleris, Jim Murphy, Robert Rousseau, Jack Dziadul, Jerry Mersch - Call to order 6:30pm CPD 7/24/12

- July minutes were approved on motion by Vic Bitleris with Jim Murphy second. Rob Rousseau noted that the tickets sold for the Spencer NS fallen flag event was approximately 1,000.
- Paymaster report Approved on motion by Jim Murphy with Rob Rousseau second.
 - a. Jerry Mersch noted that the bank fees of \$2 are within the \$50 budgeted for bank fees.
 - b. Vic Bitleris will send an email to Jamie Jordan reminding him to cash check issued in April.
- The white elephant sale will start at 6 PM. Tables available at facility. Vic Bitleris volunteered to be on duty at 6 PM to allow members to set up the tables.
 - Coaling tower kits there are four still available. One will be reserved for the raffle layout. Rob Rousseau will coordinate with Steve Milley.
- 5. Jim Murphy might be traveling next month, Rob Rousseau will be custodian of the audio visual equipment
- 6. Yahoo Groups discussion regarding membership.
 - a. Discussion resulted in ensuring that group members must be active NMRA members. The list is not restricted to CPD members. Rob Rousseau and Jack Dziadul to review the present list.

b. Membership in yahoo group is by invitation.

6:48 adjourn

General Meeting

- 1. Grif Bond reviewed the Board of Directors meeting
- White elephant sale in August will start at 6 PM.
- 3. Vic Bitleris, AP program announcements
 - a. Dan Fisher will soon receive Model Railroad Author
 - John Janosko has submitted the applications for Golden Spoke and Volunteer
- 4. Coal tower kits
 - a. 4 remain at \$5,
 - b. to advertise in the August Herald
 - c. Contest in March

5. MER Convention – Milepost 40 -Vic Bitleris asked who will be attending. So far there are only fifteen clinics and three layouts scheduled. John Janosko and Dick Buchan

encouraged clinicians and attendance.

- 6. Upcoming programs
 - a. Kim Parker distributed the clinic survey
 - i. Jerry volunteered to do a making tree clinic 2013
 - ii. August Rob Westdyke –
 Operations. The contest will be any styrene model.
 - iii. September Jack Dziadul will present a clinic on the B&M Eastern Route. The contest will be any New England themed model.
 - iv. October Pennsy Steam presentation by John Sokash. The contest will be any Pacific / K-4, 2-4-2 locomotive.
 - v. November Steve Mersch will discuss his position as engineer at the NC Transportation Museum in Spencer. The

contest will be any southern railroad rolling stock.

- vi. December will be the annual gift swap.
- vii. January will be John Wallis' annual trivia contest.
- 7. Refreshment volunteer for November Stephen Wood.
- 8. New member was Joe Austin introduced.
- 9. Jerry Mersch distributed some of the remaining MER volunteer checks.
- 10.Rob Rousseau discussed yahoo group membership.
- 11.Contest winner Jim Murphy.

John Wallis and Marc Blaustein presented an excellent T-Trak clinic complete with operating module.



NMRA National Communications Director August 2012

Welcome to the Post-Convention edition of the NMRA InfoNet News!

As I've done in the past, I'm going to split the convention and Board meeting news between this edition and next month's, so that important information doesn't get buried.

- Charlie Getz became the new NMRA <u>President</u> as Mike Brestel passed the reins to him at the Annual business meeting in Grand Rapids. Charlie has stated that his first order of business is to simplify the organizational structure of the NMRA.
- Pacific Director Michael Bartlett (Australia) and Canada Director Fred Headon became members of the Board in Grand Rapids. Michael replaces Peter Jensen; Fred replaces Clark Kooning, who took over for Don Hillman after he retired for health reasons.

- Charlie appointed Western Director Jack Hamilton to head up the new <u>Strategic</u> <u>Planning Committee</u>, which will prepare a plan to help guide the NMRA into the future. He'll be making a preliminary report at the winter Board meeting.
- The Sacramento 21st Century Limited National Convention host group presented the Board of Directors with <u>a</u> <u>check for \$7,500</u>, to be donated to the Diamond Club. The Diamond Club funds are being used for the scanning and posting of archival photographs and artwork currently housed in the NMRA's Kalmbach Memorial Library.
- Charlie Getz updated the Board on the state of the "Magic of Scale Model Railroading" exhibit, to be housed at the California State Railroad Museum (CSRM). An anonymous donor has pledged \$250,000 in matching funds, and as of late July donations of at least \$160,000 were still needed to achieve the match. The funds must be received by the end of this year. Development of the exhibit is estimated to cost between \$500,000 and \$750,000. The "Magic of Scale Model Railroading" exhibit will be seen by approximately 600,000 visitors to CSRM annually.
- <u>The Marketing Department team</u> of Page Martin, Garrett Ewald, and Barrett Johnson were named at the convention. Each of these individuals has professional marketing experience, and is tasked with developing advertising and promotions aimed at retaining existing members, re-enlisting lapsed members, and attracting new ones.
- Ben Sevier of the Pacific Southwest Region has accepted the position of <u>Information Technology Director</u> for the NMRA.

If you have any questions or comments about any of the above, please send them directly to a Director or Officer. You'll find those addresses at <u>www.nmra.org</u> or in NMRA Magazine.

From The Business Car

Grif Bond, Superintendent

MER officer election ballot – There was an error with the recent mailing of the 2012 officer election ballot from the Mid-Eastern Region. New/replacement ballots will be mailed and they will be a different color paper. So, save the stamp for the replacement ballot.

Mile Post 40 – The 2012 MER convention is coming up in Suffolk, VA on October $18^{th} - 21^{st}$. For the convention, the host Tidewater Division will be offering a custom run, in two road numbers, of a HO scale Accurail kit of the Norfolk Southern Railway's 50 foot combination door box car.



Details are on the Division's web site at the following link:

http://www.nmra-mertidewater.org/Convention/Announcement.pdf

March 2013 CPD13 special modeling



contest – Remember to keep the creative juices flowing for your model/diorama using the Life Like HO scale coaling tower. Plan now and build over the winter. The

contest will "reveal" at the March 2013 Division meeting. Prizes will be awarded by popular vote to the top 3 entries and the BOD will also award 3 prizes.

White elephant sale – The August Division meeting will include a white elephant sale for items you no longer need or have "over collected". So ramble through those boxes and closets for stuff you no longer need. All the



proceeds are yours...the Division is just providing the venue. Tables will be available at 6 PM and the "sale" period will run through the meeting (except for the program).

Join your fellow railroad modelers at the next Division meeting on August 28th. Rob Westdyke will present a program on Operations and the popular vote contest will be any styrene structure or rolling stock.

Contest Winner Jim Murphy's BS Lines Coach Jack Dziadul photos





