



The Carolina Piedmont Herald

Newsletter of the Carolina Piedmont Division, MER, NMRA

January 2012

Next Division Meeting

Tuesday, January 24, 2012

NOTE NEW LOCATION!

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**

January – Absolutely Anything

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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 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 Membership	136
http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/	
Yahoo Group Members	92
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cpd13/	
Attendance 12/13/11	27 + 2 guests

January Program

Annual Prototype Quiz

John Wallis

Financial Report

By **Jerry Mersch**, Assistant Paymaster

November 2011

Balance In Checking 11/30/11	\$8,282.43
Income Total	\$ 0.00
<u>Expenses</u>	
Raffle Layout Supplies	\$ 50.00
Holiday Meeting Refreshments	\$ 166.34
Total	-\$ 216.34
Balance in Checkbook 12/31/11	\$8,066.09
Balance in Account 12/31/11	\$8,282.43
(Checks outstanding \$216.34)	

In The News

Jack Dziadul

It is always fun to see some familiar names and faces in the hobby press.

Steve Milley's "Building a Fundraising Raffle Layout" was published in the February issue of the "NMRA Magazine". Congratulations Steve!



Board of Directors

Superintendent

Grif Bond, Wake Forest, 919-556-7066
grifbond@embarqmail.com

Assistant Superintendent

Jim Murphy, Cary, 919-460-7763

berkshireshort@yahoo.com

Division Clerk

Jack Dziadul, Sanford, 919-721-8757

dziadul@windstream.net

Division Paymaster

John Rudisill, Clayton, 919-934-7029

Jrudi123@aol.com

Director (term ending in January 2012)

John Wallis, Apex, 919-387-0325

wallisjm@att.net

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

railroad@nc.rr.com

Nominating Committee

There is one open seat for a three-year term on the Board of Directors. We have one announced nominee: **Steve Milley**. Each of the two-year officer positions are also up for election at the annual meeting. Announced candidates to date are: Superintendent – **Grif Bond**, Assistant Superintendent – **Jim Murphy**, Clerk – **Jack Dziadul**, and Paymaster – **Jerry Mersch**.

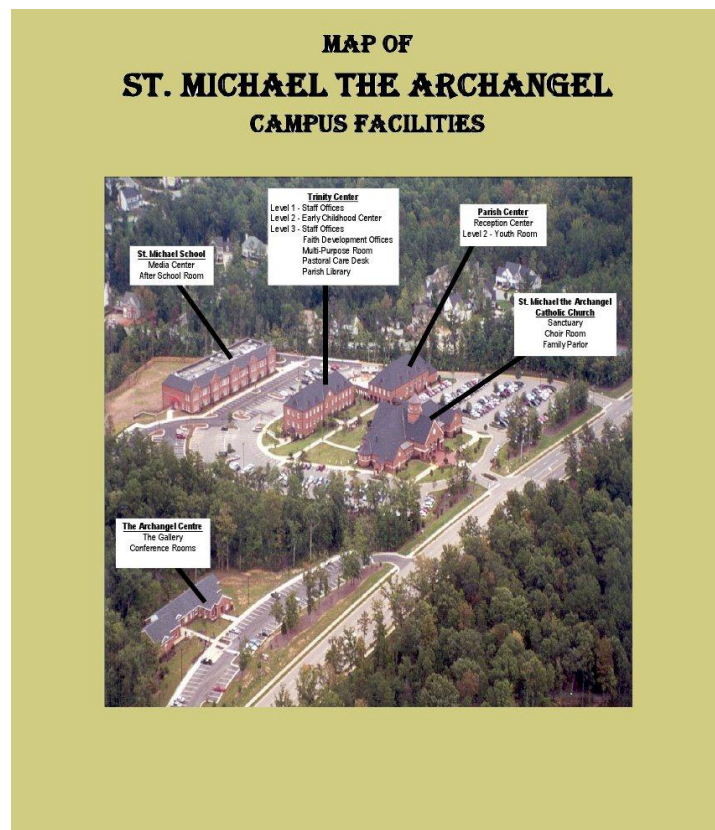
Vic Bitleris will bring ballots to the Annual Meeting on January 24th in the event that there are additional nominations from the floor.

Below is a link to the Bylaws. Articles V and VI discuss elections and Officer and Director responsibilities.

<http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/CPD13bylaws.pdf>

NEW LOCATION

The map below is from the church's web site. The new meeting location at The Archangel Center is shown on the bottom, left. This is across the street and just north of the former location at the Cary Senior Center. Enter on the left side and the meeting room is to the left.



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>

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.

Coming Events

January 28-29, 2012
 Amherst Train Show, West Springfield, MA
<http://www.railroadhobbyshow.com/>

March 2-3, 2012
 Western NC Model Railroaders Train Show
 Fletcher, NC
<http://www.Asheville-TrainShow.com>

March 3-4, 2012
 Carolina Coastal Railroaders Train Show
 New Bern, NC
<http://carolinacoastalrailroaders.com/default.aspx>

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

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
2016	Possible West Coast cruise	

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

January	Bring any model
February	Military Railroad Models
March	Bridges

Program Topics

January	Prototype Quiz - John Wallis
February	Trains in Afghanistan SFC Brian Hakey, Transportation Corps
March	Truss Bridges - Dan Fisher

Refreshment Hosts

January	Will Seehorn
February	Stephen Wood
March	your name goes here

CPD Meeting Calendar

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

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

Notice of Annual Meeting

Jack Dziadul, Clerk

The annual meeting of the Carolina Piedmont Division of the Mid-Eastern Region of the NMRA will be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at 7:00 PM. The meeting will, be held at St. Michael's Archangel Center, 830 High House Road, Cary, NC. Business to be conducted includes the election of all officers (Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Clerk and Paymaster) for 2 year terms and the election for one director for a 3 year term.

Operations Opportunities

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



"No, this load is for heating the Toy Shop. The two trainloads of stocking coal are already here..."

Trains for Kids

(Below is a note from member **Rob Rousseau** to program leader **Dave Derway**. Two of the attached photos were too foggy for The Herald, but the photo below captures the story. Editor)

Hi David,

Here is a note from the grandfather of the needy child who received the train set from our Church.

Thank you again!

-Rob

From: **Eric**

Date: Sun, Jan 15, 2012 at 7:02 PM

Subject: First train set

To: Rob Rousseau <Railroad@nc.rr.com>

Attached are pictures of Charles when he opened his train set. He is wearing a fake mustache that he got in his stocking.

Bless you for your kindness. You made him very happy.

Thank you Santa.



Mr. Cheap

Jack Dziadul

Being the romantic that I am, I take my wife on a date each week. Yes, you can find us at the Cracker Barrel in Sanford on Saturday mornings. Did you expect something else from Mr. Cheap? I discovered that if you order the blueberry pancakes you get a very nice jar like the one shown at left in the photo below. (No, the grab bars are not included.) You will need to stay alert to make sure that the waitress does not get a hold of the jar or even the lid before you sneak off with it. If you smile and use a bit of diplomacy you might even get the waitress to save some jars for you. I went back after a couple of Amanda's shifts and now have a shelf of the little rascals which are great for holding small parts. You might want to put them in the dishwasher when you get home though, unless you have some use for dark blue weathering applications. Most of you know that I travel quite a bit, so you have probably already identified the smaller jar as one that is readily found at hotel breakfast tables.



Do you have some Mr. Cheap ideas that you use and would care to share with readers of "The Herald"?

NMRA InfoNet News

By Gerry Leone, MMR
NMRA National Communications Director

- The Kalmbach Library's immensely popular **"The Postwar Freight Car Fleet"** book has sold out.
- The **Grand Rails 2012 Convention still has some space left for modular layouts** at the National Train Show so if someone in your Division or Region wants to show the world what they've done, contact Tom Draper, Chairman of the National Train Show, at either tcdraider@aol.com, or call 602-953-1681.
- More Grand Rails 2012 news: The convention has some **great things planned for non-rails**. There's a cooking demo that will make attendees think they're watching a stand-up comedian do a cooking show and great entertainment at the luncheon in one of the most beautiful ballrooms in the country. There's also a ride on a dune schooner to see the 1100 acre Saugatuck Dunes! Have non-rails go to www.gr2012.org for all the details.

And some of last month's important news bears repeating:


- This year **registration for Grand Rails 2012 will be handled in a new way**. Instead of the large registration package inserted into *NMRA Magazine*, the full package can be downloaded from www.gr2012.org. Those who prefer a printed piece can send their request, along with their name and address to: GR 2012 Registrar, 4165 Costa NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525. There will also be a registration form and ad appearing in an upcoming issue of *NMRA Magazine*.
- **NMRA elections**. The official ballot was prepared by the National Nominating Committee according to the procedures laid out in the Regulations and the Executive Handbook (available at www.nmra.org). It will appear as an insert in the center of the February issue of *NMRA Magazine*, which will be mailed

to all voting members. Ballots must be returned to NMRA headquarters, "Attention Ballot Committee," and must be postmarked by April 10, 2012 and received by April 15, 2012.

Here are the job titles and candidates as they appear on the ballot:

- President: Charles W. Getz, IV, HLM
- Vice President - Administration: Howard Goodwin; Clark Kooning, MMR
Dave Thornton
- Vice President - Special Projects: Bill Kaufman; James "Lump" Lupfer
- At-Large North American Director: Mike Brestel; Miles Hale, MMR
- Eastern District Director: John Roberts, MMR, HLM
- Pacific District Director - Mike Bartlett; Kelly Lloyd; Rob Peterson

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 www.nmra.org or in NMRA Magazine.




**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 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.

Assistant Superintendent's Report for 2011

Jim Murphy

PROGRAMS

Variety was the theme for Monthly Meeting Programs. Topics covered prototype quiz, modeling techniques, classic videos, the ultimate in track cleaning, to instructional sessions to prepare for our MER Convention. **Vic Bitleris'** "Gimmie a Brake" kept the excitement rolling and **Dan Fisher's** "Bridges over troubled water" broke participation records.

The club has excellent audio-visual equipment to help a presenter such as video camera, wireless microphone, and computer projector. The clinic on track-work would have been nearly impossible without the camera and big-screen projection of the fine details. One of the year's best presentations however was old school: **Will Seehorn's** foam scenery and electrostatic grass was stand up in front, show some materials, and tell the group what you are doing as you do the technique.

This season's programs were lively, entertaining and informative. Thanks to all who participated.


POPULAR VOTE CONTESTS

First, a very special thanks to **Kim Parker**, the Train Buddy for continuing sponsorship of the monthly contests. His generous gift certificates add that extra incentive to the winner's bragging rights.

Caboose night set a record with almost twenty entries. The variety, quantity, and quality of bridges at the September meeting were amazing. During the year saw everything that rolls: freight and passenger cars, vehicles, locomotives, and tank cars. The contests featured depots and stations to leave from and residential structures to come home to.


Participation has increased over previous years, meaning more entries, from more people, resulting in more first-time winners. The fun of the popular vote is allowing modelers of all levels of experience and all skill levels to put their work on the table for everyone to enjoy.

Improve your modeling with a few sheets of paper.



That's exactly what happens when you participate in the National Model Railroad Association's Achievement Program. One Merit Award here, another there, and pretty soon you're on your way to becoming a Master Model Railroader. All the while learning and having a ton of fun.

The Achievement Program is modelers helping modelers become better modelers and get the most out of their hobby. And it's yet another benefit of NMRA membership.



We make it even more fun.
www.nmra.org
423-892-2846

Visit www.nmra.org. Then improve your skills. And your hobby.

Train Word Puzzles

Dr. Charles Wood

Second installment in a series

N U L T E N

E E S Y C R N

D D R E A B O

P O R A F L M T

A A R R S E I K B

Solutions can be found on the last page.

Instructions for Operating

Part 1

By: **Stephen C. Wood**

Whether you are operating a huge club layout or a smaller private type, operating sessions have certain characteristics in common. For example, each of us usually volunteers for a position we especially enjoy. There is nothing wrong with that, but if you do receive an assignment which might not be one you would prefer or choose, it is best not to complain. Accept the assignment and do the very best you can. If what you are asked is a series of unfamiliar tasks, feel free to request assistance: this author has never known fellow model railroaders who were unwilling to help!

Is there some down time, when all positions are filled or when nothing seems to be happening in your area? It may pay rich dividends to watch others carefully. A small notebook is useful: jot down when and how unfamiliar tasks are done, and make special note of any other person(s) who may be involved in that part of the operation. For example, does the person whom you are observing ask a dispatcher for assistance or instructions? If so how does one establish contact with that modeler?

During an operating session, you do not simply grab a train and go! Just like a prototype line, someone shows up at the yard office and asks what he should be doing, when, how, and perhaps why. When you are called, find out what train you are supposed to run and where that train originates. That could be a staging yard, a modeled yard, or some other kind of location. There will probably be paperwork which will inform you what that train is and does. Even if that train is familiar to you, its instructions might have been altered because of an electrical or mechanical problem from an op session the previous night.

You will now know where the train originates, where it terminates, and what stops it makes along the way. For each of these stops there should be specifics regarding the cars which it picks up or sets out and where such cars are in

the sequence of cars on that train.

Now find the train and secure a throttle. Make certain that this throttle is set for the correct locomotive, channel and block assignment. You may need some assistance the first few times and it is always acceptable to ask.

If your train begins in a "staging area", it may or may not be visible. The area may not be easy to see or to access. If this does not seem realistic, don't fret. It serves a utilitarian purpose, not a scenic one. Ask another operator how to move your train safely out of staging...but do not move it yet. You will need to ask a Dispatcher for permission to move. It is his/her responsibility to have train move in and out of that area without danger of contact. You do not move without the permission of that important official.

The dispatcher has a unique position. This person may sit in a room alone, surrounded by computer screens, consoles, and perhaps confronted by a huge panel which shows the position of every train on the layout, the direction of each turnout, and much additional information. Access to such communication tools as the telephone(s) and radio(s) which give access to other personnel, the Dispatcher is in complete control of the operations. It is a job which requires total concentration!

When you have your train, your throttle, and your paperwork, you are ready to ask the Dispatcher for permission to move. What then ensues will appear in Part II of this article.

Jim Babcock's Empire

By Jack Dziadul

John Porter and I recently had the opportunity to tour Jim Babcock's layout and modeling skills. Jim has done a superb job of capturing the actual buildings and Pittsburgh area neighborhoods where he grew up. Enjoy the following photographs.







From The Business Car

By **Grif Bond**, Superintendent

The annual meeting with elections will be on January 24, 2012. All officer positions and one director position are open. The nominating committee has made their recommendations. Please come to the meeting and vote.

As most everyone knows, the internet can be a very useful tool to support the hobby of model railroading. A couple of interesting web sites I have recently come across are:

out-of-print model railroad and railroad publications

www.trainlife.com

great information on weathering, scenery and structure building tips

www.shortlinemodelers.com

With the cold winter weather here, now is the time to take advantage of being indoors a little more and to work on some of those model railroading projects. I have a backlog structure kits that I'm beginning to tackle. Maybe some of your creations will show up at a future popular vote contest at the Division meeting.

I'm working on assembling the annual Superintendent's report and that will be published in the February issue of The Herald.

We will be assembling at a new meeting location for 2012. Look for the details and the specific address on the front of The Herald.

See you at the next Division meeting.

Word Puzzle Solutions

tunnel, scenery, roadbed, platform, airbrakes