



The Carolina Piedmont Herald

Newsletter of the Carolina Piedmont Division, MER, NMRA

January 2013

Next Division Meeting

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

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 - \$10 Cash Prize

January – Unusual 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. All material should be electronic, preferably Microsoft Word or Powerpoint. Pictures should be in Jpeg format and color.

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

NMRA Membership	18,802
MER Membership	1,969
Division Membership	120
http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/	
Yahoo Group Members	93
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cpd13/	
Attendance 12/11/12	27 + 3 guests

The Name Game

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

January Program

Annual Prototype Quiz

John Wallis

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 22, 2013 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 one director for a three-year term.

In the News

Stephen Wood

January - February issue of MER "The Local"

"Hobbies You Can Combine"

Dil Huey and Lou Sassi

"6 tips for monitoring hidden tracks"

And

Lou Sassi

"New life for the Pennsy Middle Division"

February "Model Railroader"

NMRA WEB SITES

Including unofficial sites

<http://www.nmra.org/>
<http://mer.nmra.org/>
<http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cpd13/>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ldsig/>
<http://www.ldsig.org/>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MERMailbag/>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NMRAAP/>
<http://www.opsig.org/>

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
railroad@nc.rr.com

Director (term ending in January 2015)

Steve Milley, Garner, 248-421-6276
rsmilley@yahoo.com

CPD Meeting Calendar

Tuesday night's monthly 2013
 6:30 PM Board / 7:00 PM General Meeting

January 22, 2013 (Annual Meeting)

February 26	March 26
April 23	May 28
June 25	July 23
August 27	September 24
October 22	November 12
December 10	

Coming Events

January 10-12, 2013 Prototype Rails 2013
 Cocoa Beach, FL

<http://www.prototype Rails.com/>
 Mike Brock brockm@cfl.rr.com

January 19, 2013

Railroad Modeling University

Charlotte, NC. www.carolinasouthern.org
 Contact Larry Paffrath at (704) 778-2745

January 26-27, 2013
 Amherst Railway Society



West Springfield, MA




<http://www.railroadhobbyshow.com/>

February 8-10, 2013

NMRA Winter Board of Directors Meeting
 Atlanta, Georgia

All NMRA members are welcome to attend.
 Times and location will be announced later.

NMRA National Conventions

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


2013 10/10 - 10/13

C&P Junction, Rockville, MD

<http://home.comcast.net/~CandP2013/>

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	Unusual Rolling Stock
February	Cars with Loads
March	 Coal Tower Diorama
April	Cars with Loads, Revised
May	Your \$2 Makeover
June	Any Diorama or Single Tree
July	Diorama or Tree (from the June clinic)

Program Topics

January	John Wallis' prototype quiz
February	Flat Car and Gondola Loads - Grif Bond, Kim Parker, John Janosko
March	Coal tower contest
April	\$2 Car Makeover Vic Bitleris
May	Trees (I) Steve Milley
June	Trees (II) Steve Milley

Refreshment Hosts

January	John Janosko
February	Gene Sing
March	your name goes here

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Master Builder – Prototype Models

(eighth in a series)



Jack Burgess, MMR
Pacific Coast Region AP Chairman

This month we will talk about the requirements for *Master Builder - Prototype Models*. Like the other certificates, the full requirements for this category are available on the Internet at the NMRA site, www.nmra.org.

The *Prototype Models* certificate was a natural category for me to qualify for, but others may feel that it is the most challenging category in the entire AP program. However, I think that it accurately reflects the trend in our hobby toward more prototype models and layouts. Note that the *Prototype Models* category has a number of requirements that seem similar to the *Master Builder - Scenery* category. However, there are significant differences.

To qualify for the *Master Builder - Prototype Models* certificate, you must construct an animated or static model of a prototype scene containing at least six models of prototype equipment and structures. Of the six models, you must include at least four different models including 1) rolling stock; 2) a railroad structure; 3) a caboose or passenger car; and 4) motive power. Two of the required six models must be scratchbuilt and the remaining four models must be super-detailed. The prototype scene, with the six models in it, must be capable of winning a Merit Award, i.e., earning 87½ points.

While these requirements might seem very similar to the Master Builder - Scenery Category, the major difference that one might notice is that there is no minimum size requirement like there is for the Scenery category. Note too that the individual models do not need to be capable of winning a Merit Award. Instead, only the completed scene is judged but the entire scene must score a minimum of 87½ points. The prototype scene is judged using the following criteria:

- Terrain (35 points)
- Structures (35 points)
- Background (15 points)
- Lighting (5 points)
- Realism/Conformity (35 points)

In addition to building the models, you must submit 2 sets of photographs (or a video tape

presentation) that will document the prototype being modeled and the model itself. In other words, you need to describe in photos and text how you have duplicated the prototype scene. You also need to prepare a written description which, along with photographs and possibly maps, shows how the modeled scene replicates the actual prototype scene. Include in the written description the intended setting of the model railroad and describe the scenic details used to achieve the desired effect. If at all possible, take pictures of your model that are from the same angle as pictures that you have of the prototype. That way you can have side-by-side pictures showing how well you have recreated the scene you are modeling. If you drafted your own building plans (which you will often have to do), include them too along with a description of how you developed them. This is one category in which you cannot have too much documentation! Obviously, you need to model a scene for which you can supply prototype photos. These same photos are essential to your modeling efforts.

While the AP category might seem daunting to some, I see it instead as simply documentation of the ever-growing prototype approach to the hobby. For example, assume that you build some rolling stock, a structure or two, and a locomotive, a couple of which are scratchbuilt, all based on actual prototypes. If you enter each of them in a divisional, regional, or National modeling contest, so much the better...if they score Merit Awards, these awards can be used toward the other categories for Cars, Structures, and/or Motive Power. Then build up a module or diorama (or better yet, a portion of your layout) to duplicate a specific scene which could include these models (especially the structures!) and you might be on the road to award of this AP category. However, I must warn you (with tongue in cheek) that prototype modeling is additive! First you find a few photos of your favorite prototype, then you find that you need more information, and you soon find that you are hooked!

Once you have satisfied all of the requirements, submit a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) which includes the required descriptions and photos.

Contest – Started Yet?

Jack Dziadul

Our March special modeling contest requires using the Life-Like HO Scale Coaling Tower kit number 1377. Build your kit using a minimum of 50% of the parts and display it on a diorama/base (maximum size of 24" by 36" in HO scale and 24" by 18" in N scale). Identify the structure(s) with a sign or an index card explaining what it is. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place "popular vote" and the Board of Directors will award 3 additional prizes. All prizes will be model railroading tools and/or supplies that can be used in any scale. Be sure to take notes and photograph your progress so that we can include a brief article in the April edition of "The Herald".

Train Word Puzzles

Dr. Charles Wood

Thirteenth installment in a series
Solutions can be found on the last page.

E T T L N R B U A

A S I N O T T

E G G U A

E E E R R S V

I I D G S N

Featured Layout Jack Frame's Monon

Jack Dziadul

As I work on the January issue here on Christmas Eve I thought that I would just step back a bit to savor the memory of some fantastic layout tours. We start out with **Jack Frame's** HO scale Monon which is set in 1952, which **John Porter** and I visited a number of months ago.

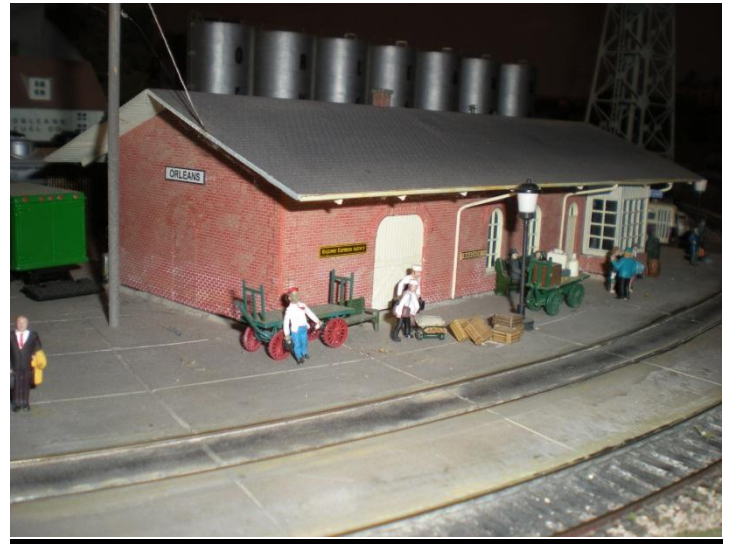
Contact the Editor if you would like to have your home layout, club layout or module featured in a future edition of The Herald. Layouts need not be completed. Readers are also interested in seeing layouts under

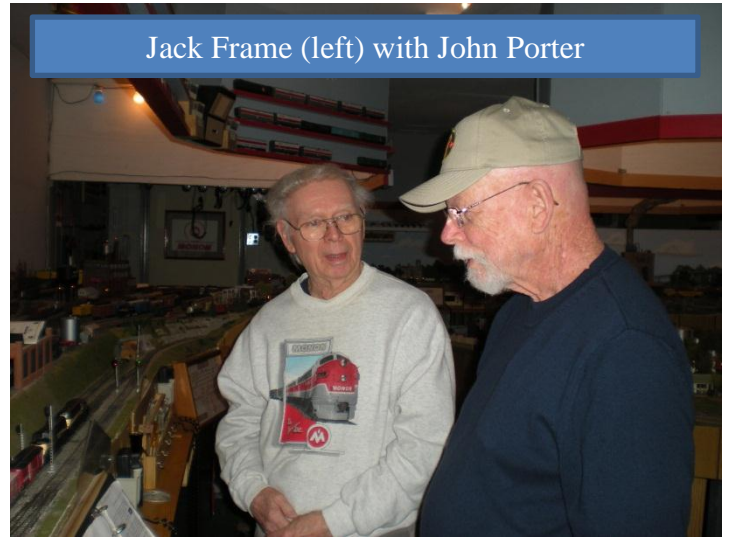
construction. There is some remarkable work going on in the Carolina Piedmont Division of the MER! **Bruce Faulkner's** N scale CSX Shenandoah Division will be featured in February followed our tour of **Jerry Davis' O** gauge layout in March. Follow along now as we drive to Raleigh to ride the Monon.



Above: You know when you have arrived at Jack Frame's home!







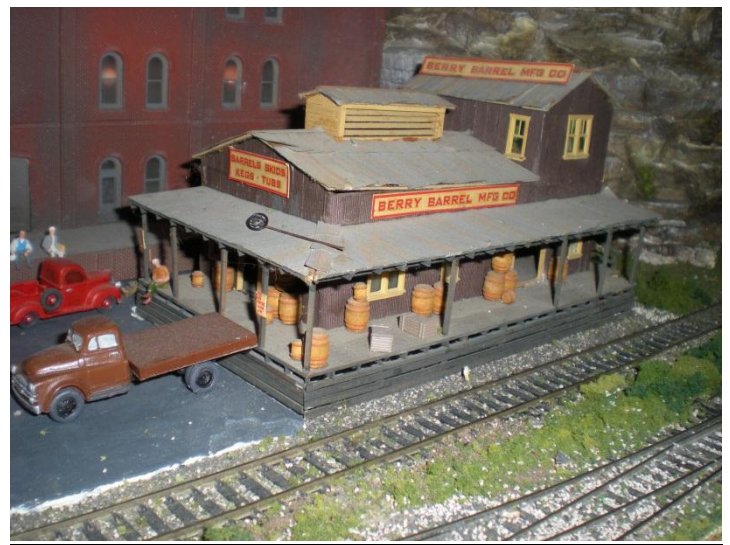
Jack Frame (left) with John Porter

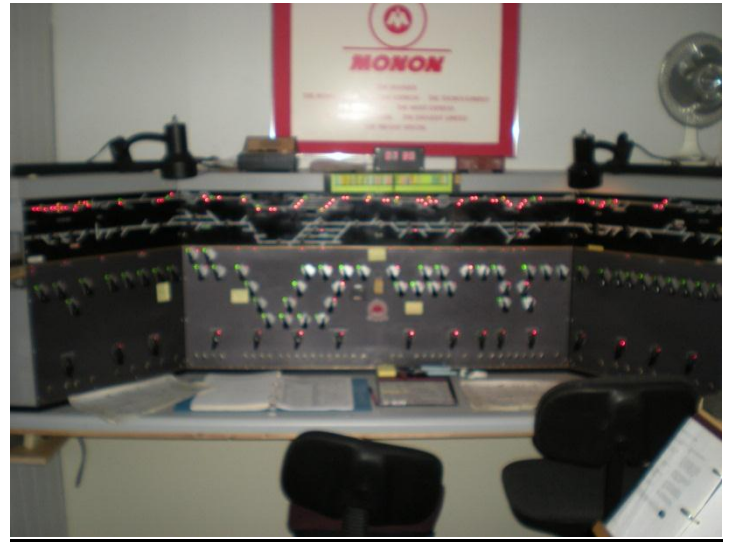




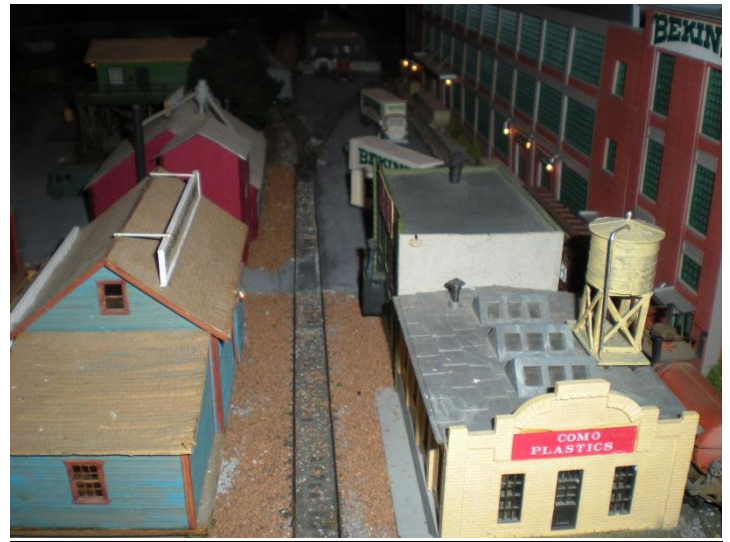
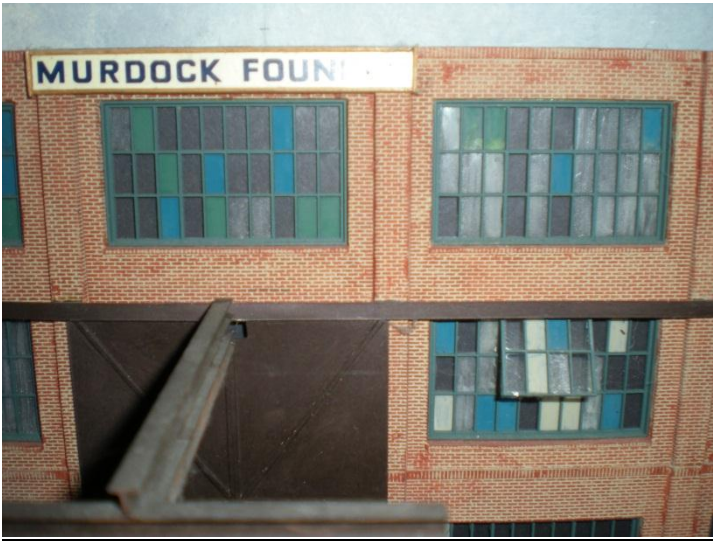


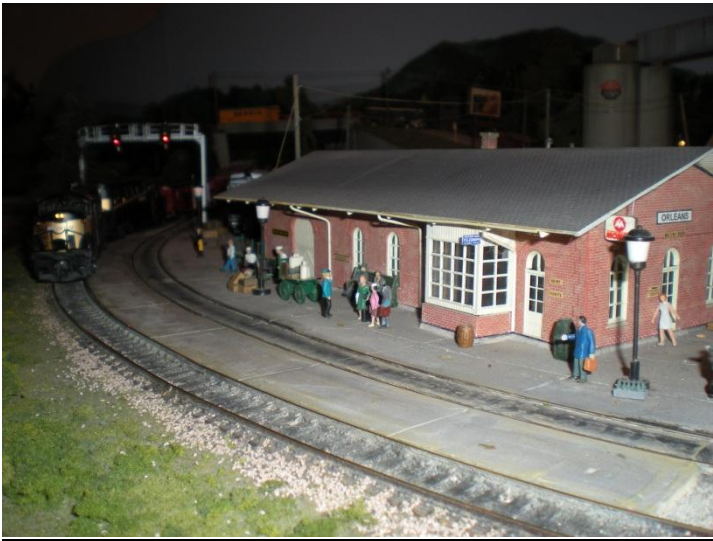
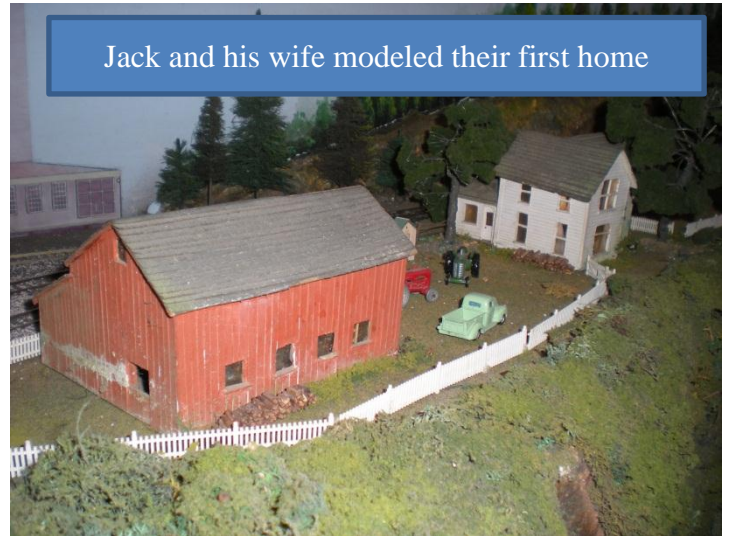




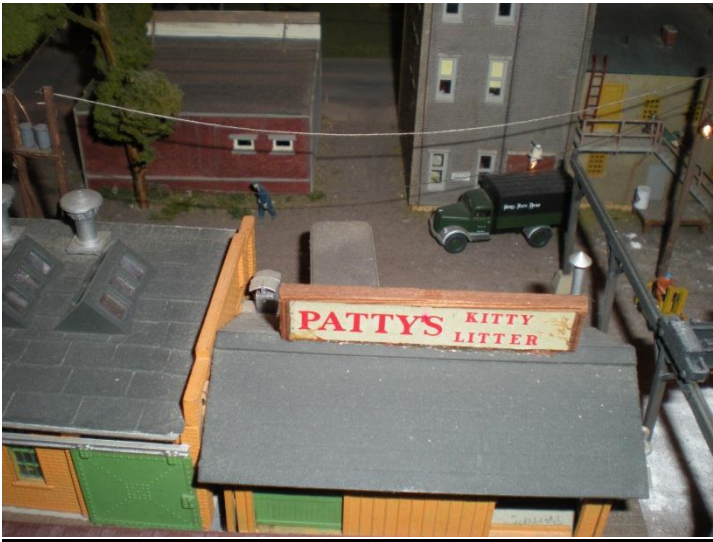












December Meeting Photos



The Motley Crew



Trains for Kids display



Kim Bond and Molly helping Grif set up.

NMRA InfoNet News



By Gerry Leone, MMR
 NMRA National Communications Director
December 2012

- **Donations for "The Magic of Scale Model Railroading" Exhibit** at the California State Railroad Museum are continuing to pour in. Among the more noteworthy are:
 - The **World's Greatest Hobby campaign** has pledged \$50,000 toward the Exhibit.
 - **Cincinnati Division 7, in the Mid-Central Region**, has pledged \$15,000 toward the Exhibit.

Current pledge and donation totals are now over \$200,000, but the NMRA still needs to raise an additional \$50,000 to meet the \$250,000 "matching challenge pledge" by an anonymous donor. If you, your Division or Region, have any questions about the exhibit, please contact Howell Day Museum Committee Chairman Allen Pollock at 573-619-8532. You can contribute via the web by visiting www.nmra.org and clicking on the donation link near the top of the homepage.

- The **Winter Board of Directors Meeting** will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, at the Sheraton Suites Galleria-Atlanta, on February 8-10. Although the Board meets in a closed caucus the evening of February 8, the general meeting is open to all NMRA members on February 9 and 10.
- Hasea.com, the model railroad association located in China which has aligned itself with the NMRA, has invited the NMRA President and a few other NMRA officials to **tour the new, highly restricted Chinese High Speed Rail factory and facilities** in February. No foreign visitors have ever had the opportunity to view these facilities

before. As you may recall from *NMRA Magazine* articles and blurbs here, Hasea is a network of 100,000 Chinese railfans and modelers. The NMRA Board has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Hasea to share our standards and organizational knowledge.

- The **Peachtree Express 2013 website has been updated**, and now lists all the planned prototype and general interest tours, along with all layout tours. There are photos of each layout, and, in some cases, videos. Visit www.nmra2013.org to view the updates, and watch *NMRA Magazine* for Peachtree Express 2013 layout features.
- Bill Kaufman, Vice President of Special Projects, is spearheading a **new eBulletin concept** – an electronic communication sent by email to interested NMRA members on a regular basis. The project is still in the planning stages, and will be presented to the Board of Directors at the Winter Meeting in February.
- I'd like to repeat this important news again this month: John Stevens, the NMRA Secretary, has announced the **slate of candidates for the 2013 National elections**. Ballots will be in NMRA members' hands early next year. Candidates are:
 - At-Large Worldwide Director:
 - Stan Ames
 - Mike Brestel
 - Larry Smith, MMR
 - Leslie Eaton, MMR
 - Atlantic District Director:
 - Alain Kap
 - Kathy Millatt
 - Western District Director
 - Larry Alfred, MMR
 - Jack Hamilton, MMR
- Another item that bears repeating: Western Director Jack

Hamilton and his committee are working on a new **Long Range Plan for the NMRA**. Jack is still looking for input from members, and writes, "The October edition of *NMRA Magazine* put out a general call ("NMRA – Where do the tracks lead?") to members for input for NMRA strategic planning. There have been a number of excellent responses to the call but not nearly in the numbers that might be suggested by the normal level of grouching and gripes about the organization. This is your opportunity to make a difference and have some direct say in the direction the NMRA takes into our future. This is your organization and your ideas and input will be treated with equal value and respect. Please read the October article and make your desires known to Western District Director Jack Hamilton at westdir@hq.nmra.org or mail them directly to Jack at 10731 Warren Road NW, Silverdale, WA 98383."

- Lastly, on a personal note, I've turned in my **resignation as Communications Director**, as of the Winter Board meeting next February. It's been a fun run and I've enjoyed it. I don't exactly know what the fate of these InfoNet News e-blasts will be beyond January – that will be up to my successor. So if you or anyone you know would like to apply for the position, please contact President Charlie Getz at charliegetz@yahoo.com.

*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*.*

I hope everyone has a peaceful, restful, and wonderful holiday season!





Meeting Minutes

Jack Dziadul, Clerk

Carolina Piedmont Division 13

December 11, 2012

Board of Directors

Attendance: **Grif Bond, Vic Bitleris, Jim Murphy, Robert Rousseau, Steve Milley, Jerry Mersch, Jack Dziadul** - Call to order 6:30pm

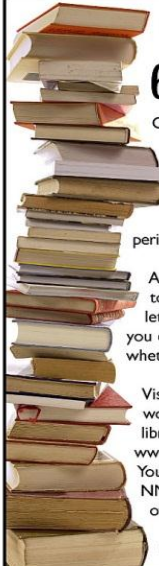
- November **minutes** approved on motion by Jim Murphy with Vic Bitleris second.
- **Paymaster** report – Approved on motion by Steve Milley with Vic Bitleris second. Grif Bond submitted receipts to Jerry Mersch for meeting refreshments and for purchase of trains sets for the Holiday Trains for Kids program.
- **Holiday Trains for Kids** – Steve Milley reported that eight train sets were distributed. Steve will write an article for “The Herald”. We have six sets in inventory for next year, one of which will be held out as a runner-up raffle prize. These will be stored by Steve Milley. On motion of Vic Bitleris with Steve Milley second it was voted to purchase six more train sets. Steve Milley discussed providing receipts for donated items for the Trains for Kids layout program. Steve will provide the letters for the Superintendent’s signature. The value of the materials will not be stated. The Clerk will provide sample stationery to Steve.
- **Nominating Committee** – Steve Milley will prepare ballots. There are three director candidates (**Dave Johnson, Will Seehorn, and Stephen Wood**) plus a space for a write-in.
- **Annual Meeting** - Jack Dziadul suggested amending the by-laws to allow for lower than 20% quorum requirement. The Clerk will draft and distribute an Amendment to the By-Laws. A brief Board meeting will be convened after the Annual Meeting to conform to the By-law requirements.
- **Monthly Contest** – On motion of Vic Bitleris with Jim Murphy second it was approved that the division sponsor the contest with a \$10 cash prize for the popular vote contest.

- **Donation** - Rob Rousseau has two boxes of donated materials. These will be brought to the January meeting for review and further discussion. A receipt will be prepared by Grif Bond.
- 6:50 PM adjourned.

General Meeting

27 members in attendance

- Grif Bond reviewed the Director's meeting.
- Steve Milley recognized **Jim Babcock** for refurbishing two locomotives purchased at the Neuse River Train Show, and **Mike Humble** for volunteering to custom paint the models.
- Grif Bond introduced Kim and Molly and they were thanked for their efforts for once again assisting with the Holiday party.
- **Gene Sing** announced that **Dick Buchan** will hold an open house on Sunday, 12/16/12 from 1-4 PM.
- The membership enjoyed a very nice spread with then proceeded to have a great time with the Yankee Swap Gift Exchange.




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. You'll find that the NMRA has a lot to offer modelers.



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

Check it all out!

Notice of PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS

I Action to be taken at the Board of Director's meeting.

- **Majority in favor required for approval at the Board level.**
- **A quorum is reached so long as four Board members are present**

That Section 4.11 of the By-Laws be amended by changing the Quorum requirement from 20% of the members to 15% of the members.

II Action to be taken at the Annual Meeting.

- **If approved at the Board meeting.**
- **Adoption requires that two-thirds must vote in favor.**
- **Would apply to future Annual Meetings.**

That Section 4.11 of the By-Laws be amended by changing the Quorum requirement from 20% of the members to 15% of the members.

The above amendment is being proposed to ensure that a quorum is reached for Annual Meeting official business.

Jack Dziadul, Clerk



Classifieds

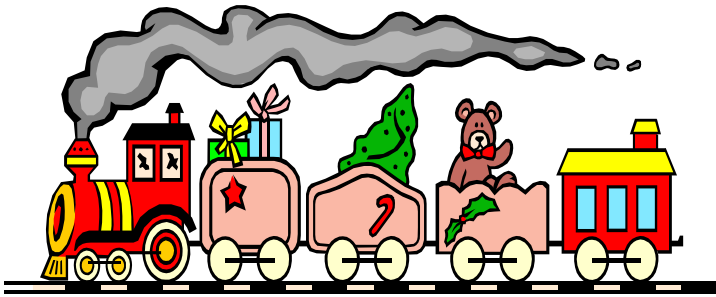
ATTENTION CPD MEMBERS: Do you have a wanted or an item for sale? Are you looking for carpool options to our meetings, a train show event or options for sharing a hotel room? The Herald will publish a FREE classified section for all CPD members. Send your classified ad to the Editor at dziadul@windstream.net.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

Train Books for sale – All six for \$30. All are in excellent condition and represent a great collection of photography that captures fine locomotive details. Contact Jack Dziadul at dziadul@windstream.net. This is a remarkable value at \$5 per book.



A Sign of the Times

Model Railroader December 1995 – 234 pages.
 Model Railroader December 2012 – 98 pages.



The 2012 Holiday Trains for Kids Program Summary

Submitted By: R. Stephen Milley

The CPD13 group contributes to the local community in a very special way each year during the Christmas holiday season. In the **Holiday Trains for Kids** (HTFK) program, members seek out less-fortunate families with children that will appreciate a brand new electric train set as a holiday gift. Members seek out families through their church or community organizations, or by personal contact with families that may not be in a position to provide such a special gift to a child at Christmas. CPD13 has been participating in this activity for many years, and it's a very special feeling to hand over a new train set to a family and see the appreciation from the parents and the joy in the children's eyes.

You can see in the photo below the HO scale train sets that the CPD13 group distributes. There are usually a couple of different sets from which to choose; the inventory comes from funds that the group earns by building and raffling the annual HTFK Raffle Layout. In recent years, the raffle layout has generated nearly \$2,000 in available funds; some of the funds goes towards materials and supplies for future raffle layouts, but most goes towards purchase of new train sets for future HTFK families. CPD13 officers keep an eye out for special sale prices to purchase train sets for the program.



Photo 1: Holiday Trains for Kids – Inventory of HO Scale Train Sets

The 2012 HTFK distribution was a successful year – the group distributed 8 train sets this past holiday season. A special thanks goes to each CPD13 member who makes the effort to locate these families and share a special holiday-season gift. This year's distribution was as follows:

- **Jerry Mersch** – identified a 10-year old boy in Youngsville through a personal contact.
- **Jack Dziadul** – identified a 14-year old boy in Sanford through the *Family Promise Program*.
- **Grif Bond** – identified a young boy in the local area.
- **Stephen Milley** – identified a young boy in Rocky Mount through the *My Sister's House* organization.
- **Don Jennings & Stephen Milley** – worked together with *The Caring Place* in Cary to identify 2 families with young children.
- **Don Jennings** – identified an 11-year old boy in Garner through *Goodwill Industries* organization.
- **Don Hamrick** – identified a young boy in the local area.

It's great to be able to share the Christmas spirit with our local community together with our CPD13 friends. Here's to looking forward to a happy and healthy new year in 2013, and another successful venture towards to the 2013 *Holiday Trains for Kids* activities. Thanks to all the CPD13 members that contribute to this effort.



Photo 2: CPD13 Members Support the **Holiday Trains for Kids** Program

CONSTRUCTING AND RECONSTRUCTING THE CLSC&W RAILROAD

By: Stephen C. Wood

Welcome to the CLSC&W Railroad. After years of designing, I decided I that needed a train layout where I would be able to freelance the New York Central System. In 1999, I decided it was time. I love the upper part of New York especially the Albany area and all the mountains and small towns in valleys. My favorite time of year is fall and all the colors the trees produce. Therefore, I decided to create a fictitious town in a valley surrounded with mountains, woods and rocks using reds, oranges, greens and brownish colors to create this fall scene.

I have fond memories of the trains I used to see as a youngster growing up in New York and going to Harmon Yards with my grandfather who worked for the NYC. After purchasing every book I could get my hands on and subscribing to a number of model railroad magazines, I decided to build the railroad in HO-Scale; like I did as a child some 40 years before.

My first HO-Scale adventure was at age 6 and if I remember, it ran on the floor of my home. The following year we moved and I was given a room to put the trains on a single sheet of plywood. I knew that someday I would want a larger version. A third move gave me my own room next to my dad's home office. Still, I had just one sheet of plywood sitting on an antique table. But, I thought that I was in heaven. In 1977, it was off to the military and many moves and years separated me from my trains. One day my parents found some boxes in their

attic that were labeled "Stephen". After moving to North Carolina in 1993, I retrieved those boxes not knowing what was stored away; military uniforms, or maybe my old baseball card collection. Who knew what? The last four boxes had all my old trains and buildings from 1965 looking like they were in good shape. At this point, my dream started to come alive.

I kept designing and designing with three or four more moves until I settled down to my current location in 1999. I looked in those old boxes and I realized there was no progress other than drawings and dreams. I had become a virtual model railroader.

When I settled down at my current location there was a building outside I knew could be used for the trains. The building is 48' long by 25' wide. After many hard months, of digging out the clay, laying the floor and framing , insulating and dry walling, and getting electricity out there (no heat or air for 5 or 6 more years. Space heaters and fans had to do). My only regret was I that never took pictures of how it originally looked. I just photographed the completed stages.

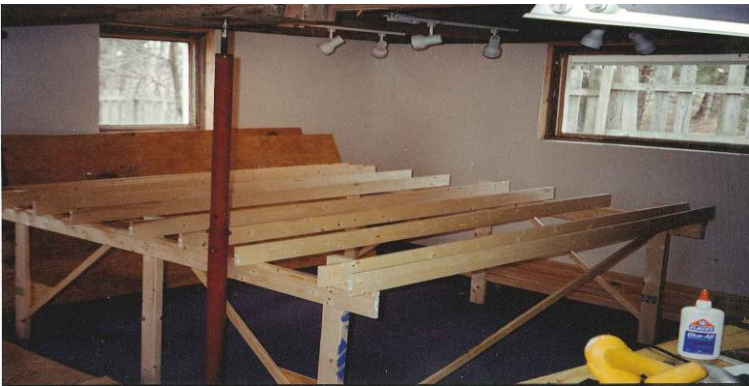


The original train room.



After the floor was in but before the walls and office were built.

I purchased the HOW TO BUILD MODEL RAILROAD BENCH WORKBOOK and immediately became absorbed. The more I studied the bench work, the more I knew that this would be a great place to start.



The first of many L-Girders



Under the layout after a few L-Girders are built and together



Lumber for the L-Girders

In 1999 the CLSC&W branch of the NYC was started with the help of my father, CPD member Charles Wood.



The author on the left and his father. Look behind dad and see how we heated the building for the first five years.

With the bench work completed and not really understanding everything, I built it as I did some 40 years before; free standing with a pop-up. I learned that during the thirteen years I had this layout it was very difficult to reach the tracks as well as the yard. We expanded the yard in 2004 as we thought the tracks were too short. We added 1 1/2 sheets of plywood to the yard. The layout featured four main lines with passenger service on the upper level (2 tracks) with 48" and 46" radius curves and the lower two tracks were the freight lines. There were five line side industries as the focus is the yard with 15 classification sidings, a 5 stall round house, 3 engine houses and 2 of the classification sidings just for the cabooses. The entire layout was set for the fall season with plenty of mountains across the back and the lower tracks set inside a valley. The upper tracks were carved out of the mountain.

Addition Holiday Party Photos



Clerk's Annual Report

Jack Dziadul

We began 2012 with 135 members and we ended the year with 120 members. A review of the roster suggests that most of the RailPass memberships that were subscribed for the Carolina Piedmont Convention were not converted to permanent memberships after their six-month trial ended.

The CPD census is detailed below:

- 92 Regular memberships
- 13 Life members
- 6 Family members
- 9 RailPass members

NMRA is preparing to distribute a periodic email directly to members. This new communication tool is expected to begin within the next 2-3 months. In preparation for this undertaking and to ensure that the CPD members are receiving full value for their dues, the Clerk contacted every member in 2012 to ensure that we had the correct contact information in the NMRA member database. This effort resulted in a number of address, email and / or telephone corrections or updates. It also resulted in additional Yahoo Group memberships.

The Clerk is responsible for recording the minutes of CPD meetings. These have been published in subsequent issues of "The Herald". **Rob Rousseau** took minutes on occasions when the Clerk was not able to attend a meeting.

Among the Clerk's duties is assigning an Editor for The Herald. I have continued as the Editor and we produced twelve monthly issues in 2012. Distribution is almost exclusively by email through our Yahoo Group. In addition Webmaster **Rob Rousseau** posts The Herald to the CPD web site. "NMRA Magazine" author Jim Zinzer again mentioned The Herald in his 2012 columns. We have had many articles, notices and photographs submitted by members this past year. Your submissions

are what make The Herald relevant as a member benefit.

From The Business Car

Grif Bond, Superintendent

Happy New Year to all! – Hopefully everyone had some time to relax with family and friends over the holidays and also spend some time working on your railroad modeling projects. My wife has recently started the hobby of "crafting" with scrapbook materials, making ornaments, and designing paper crafts. She was amazed that a number of model railroad items were helpful to her new hobby...including X-Acto knives, a self-healing cutting mat, dental tools (picks), Aileen's tacky glue and 3M Super 77 spray adhesive. Some of her crafting tools have also come in handy for model railroading.

2013 Annual Meeting – The annual Division meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2013. We will have an election for one open Director position that includes a 3 year term (January 2013 – January 2016). There are 3 candidates – David Johnson, Will Seehorn and Stephen Wood. Under the current by-laws, we need a quorum of 20% to conduct elections and that equates to about 24 members, so your attendance, participation and vote are important. We also plan on voting on a by-laws amendment to change the quorum requirement from 20% to 15% for future votes/meetings (not including the January 2013 meeting). This should help for meetings down the road in the event we need a quorum to conduct official business (voting). Average meeting attendance is about 24 members. **Please plan to attend the annual meeting on January 22.**

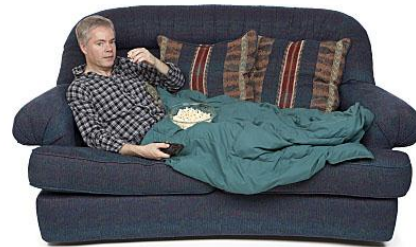
Director Vic Bitleris – The Division extends a special "thank you" to Vic Bitleris for his service as a Director since January 2007. Vic has served for 2 terms of 3 years each and was not eligible for re-election. His term ends at the January 2013 annual meeting. He will continue to handle the duties of the Achievement Program (AP) Coordinator for the Division. Thanks Vic for your service!

Budget 2013 – The Board of Directors is working to finalize the Division 2013 budget. If you have any recommendations, please contact me or any Board member. The budget will include known expenses such as meeting space rental, meeting refreshments, education program supplies, train show table fees, office supplies and postage, special modeling contest prizes, raffle layout supplies and funding for the Holiday Trains for Kids program.

Special Modeling Contest – Remember at the March meeting we will have the latest edition of the “special modeling contest” and the display of Division member efforts to “kit bash” the HO scale Life-Life cooling tower. I’m sure there will be some great entries. The Division will provide a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes based on the popular vote of those in attendance along with 3 honorable mention awards from the Board of Directors. The new year has just started, so you still have about 2 ½ months to get your kit bashing on.

Thanks to Train Buddy Products – A special acknowledgement goes to Kim A. Parker and his business, Train Buddy Products, for supporting the Division’s monthly popular vote model contest. Kim has provided \$10 gift certificates to the monthly contest winners for the past 5 years (since early 2008). The Division appreciates his support and generosity. Thanks Kim!

See you at the Annual Meeting on January 22nd – John Wallis will present his latest prototype railroad quiz, so be prepared...maybe study up in advance. The popular vote contest will be “unusual rolling stock”, so look for that unique/odd/rare rolling stock item you have on the layout, on the shelf or in a box and bring it to the meeting. You cannot win unless you enter.



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