



The Carolina Piedmont Herald

Newsletter of the Carolina Piedmont Division, MER, NMRA

September 2013

Next Division Meeting

Tuesday, September 24, 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

Next up - September – Roads

(Those without rails)

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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 in color.

Jack Dziadul, Clerk and Editor

jackdziadul@gmail.com

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

Address, email or telephone changed? Here is the link to keep your NMRA records up to date.

<http://www.nmra.org/member/content/member-info-update>

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	19,271
MER Membership	2,010
Division Membership	135
http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/	
Yahoo Group Members	94
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cpd13/	
Attendance 8/23/13	38

September Program

The Colorado & Southern
Railway

Mason Cutchin



The program will reveal the where, what, why and when of the C&S. Photos document the problems and solutions of building a small railroad uphill into the Rockies from Denver. Everything about the Colorado & Southern seems to provide perfect inspiration for a model railroad. Photos reveal the area that inspires the model railroad that Mason has planned. Photos will then show the development, the compromises and the final 12' X 13' track plan. Mason will also bring a test track & power supply to show the size and performance of HOn3.

The Name Game

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

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 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

Director (term ending in January 2016)

Will Seehorn, Cary, 919-466-0827
wseehorn@gmail.com

CPD Meeting Calendar

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





September 24 October 22 November 12
 December 10

Coming Events

Saluda Rails Ops
 October 25-27, 2013
<http://saludarails.org/>

Amherst Model RR Society Train Show
 West Springfield, MA
 January 25-26, 2014
<http://www.railroadhobbyshow.com/>

NMRA National Conventions

2013	7/14 - 7/20		Atlanta, GA
2014	7/13 - 7/20		Cleveland, OH
2015	8/23 - 8/30		Portland, OR
2016	7/3 - 7/10		Indianapolis, IN
2017			Orlando, FL

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

September	Roads (without rails)
October	Abandoned Shed or Barn
November	
December	No contest-Yankee Swap

Program Topics

September	Colorado & Southern
	
	Mason Cutchin
October	Signs on Buildings - Jim Murphy
November	
December	Annual Yankee Swap

Refreshment Hosts

September	Don Hamrick
October	
November	your name goes here
December	Grif Bond

NMRA web sites

NMRA	http://www.nmra.org/
NMRA eBay	http://goo.gl/BVTIY
MER	http://mer.nmra.org/
CPD	http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jerry Mersch, Paymaster

August 2013

Balance In Check Book 7/31/13 \$7,302.01

Income

Total \$ 0.00

Expenses

Bank Fee \$ 2.00

Meeting refreshments \$ 32.30

Popular vote awards \$ 10.00

Total \$ 44.30

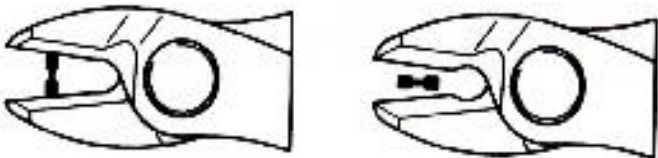
Check Book Balance 8/31/13 \$7,257.71

Cutting Rail

Jack Dziadul

The question of how to cut rail using Xuron rail cutting tools comes up periodically.

Illustration source unknown



For maximum cutting life and optimal finish, HO track should be cut top to bottom, N and Z cut from side to side.

The note below is from the Xuron web site.

A favorite of model railroaders worldwide. Xuron's Micro-Shear® cutting action leaves clean square cuts on both brass and nickel silver track - sizes HO, N and Z. For best results, position track in the center of the jaws (top to bottom).

But then watch closely Cody Grivno in the video below. He cuts HO track side to side.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qIt2F3rFjDg>

Are we all clear now?

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.

Contest Participation

January-August	Total	Winner
Steve Milley	13	
Jim Murphy	12	2
Dan Fisher	9	2
Rob Rousseau	9	1
Dave Derway	8	3
Jack Dziadul	8	
Dick Buchan	6	
Jim Babcock	5	
Grif Bond	4	
Vic Bitleris	4	
Mason Cutchin	4	
Luis Dominguez	3	1
Rick Hendrickson	3	
Bill Hanley	2	
Mike Humble	2	
Jerry Mersch	2	
John Janosko	1	
John Sokash	1	
Bob Bridges	1	
Joel McCurry	1	
Kim Parker	1	
Total entries	99	9



ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Master Model Railroader Certificate

(Fourteenth in a series)



Jack Burgess, MMR
Pacific Coast Region AP Chairman

In previous articles, we have discussed the various certificates which can be awarded under the NMRA Achievement Program. In this issue, I want to instead discuss the goal of the program which is qualification as a *Master Model Railroader*. This honor is bestowed after a modeler has met the qualifications for a minimum of seven certificates out of the total of eleven AP certificates. Of the seven certificates, you must have received one from each of four areas:

- Railroad Equipment
 - Master Builder - Motive Power
 - Master Builder - Cars
- Railroad Scenery
 - Master Builder - Structures
 - Master Builder - Scenery
 - Master Builder - Prototype Models
- Railroad Construction and Operation
 - Model Railroad Engineer - Civil
 - Model Railroad Engineer - Electrical
 - Chief Dispatcher
- Service to the Hobby and NMRA Member
 - Association Official
 - Association Volunteer
 - Model Railroad Author

As can be recognized by this requirement, the goal of the AP program is to encourage modelers to become proficient in many different areas. You must be able to prove (through the awarding of various AP certificates) that you have the ability to build quality scale models, scenery and/or structures and construct, wire, or operate a layout as well as provide service to the hobby.

I have always been an advocate for the AP program because it challenges you to improve your skills and, in the process, get more out of the hobby. Maybe there is an aspect of the hobby that you just don't enjoy, such as electrical wiring of a layout. You can still

participate in the hobby. However, if electrical work is a challenge that you want to master, you can use the AP program as a way of confronting that possible lack of knowledge and learning more about it. In the process, you can both improve your skills and complete the requirements for an AP certificate.

InfoNet-News September **Recruiting Tools**

Pete Magoun, MMR

As I travel around the NMRA I hear a common theme rumbling at Division and Region levels: "How do we attract more members to the NMRA?" Sure, there are variations on this theme, like "What's 'National' doing to attract new members," or "What tools do we have to attract new members," but the underlying theme doesn't change. We need new members if the organization is to survive. That job is for each of us.

This discussion came up awhile back at a Region convention, where I had been asked to comment after the banquet. The term used was "After-Banquet Speaker," which is generally not a good idea around me, because I can talk about the benefits of the NMRA for a long time. This is a great hobby, and the NMRA makes it even better. But I digress....

The festivities included a slideshow of host Division activities, including modular shows in shopping areas, open houses, road trips and so on. That slideshow triggered a major change in my intended remarks, for I realized that it could be the basis for a completely different presentation. So let's have a look at the discussion. It's Tool Time!

There are really only three tools you need to conduct a successful membership growth campaign. They're inexpensive, and all of us have them. We simply need to use them!

The first is our eyes. We need to make eye contact with a potential member. We can smile with our eyes (try it - it works!), and our eyes tell the new prospect a great deal about who we are and where we're going. When we're happy, enjoying ourselves and proud of our

organization, this shows in our eyes. [So does the Grumpy Old Man part, so be careful!]

The second is our mouth. We can smile with our mouths, and we can say a lot about the educational opportunities, fun, fellowship and so on we're enjoying within our little corner of the NMRA. We can answer questions, provide invitations, and make folks feel welcome.

The third is our hands. Use them for handshakes. Invite people in with a handshake. Make folks feel welcome. It's not difficult, and it makes a world of difference to a prospective member.

At some point in our NMRA experience, someone smiled, extended a hand to us, made us feel welcome, and invited us to join the fun. It wasn't difficult, and it opened the door to us. Be that someone! Go for it!

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 the NMRA Magazine.

Relic From Times Past

Len T. Raley

Frequently, when I'm driving down a rural road, I will come across a building that is structurally sound but appears to have been abandoned. Many times, the original purpose of the building is not obvious and I have often wondered why it was simply left to decay.

When I finally got around to building the Northeastern kit made available through the Sierra Division, I decided to have it represent one of those relics from times past. I also wanted to try some new coloring and weathering techniques as a part of the process.

Assembly followed the kit instructions except for the following modifications:

- Internal bracing using 1/8" stripwood to prevent warping;
- Rafter tails added to the underside of the roof sections;

- Foundation trim boards to hide the edges of the floor at the bottom of the clapboard siding;
- 2"X 6" decking and trim added to loading platforms;
- Rolled red asphalt roofing material from Stoney Creek Designs; and,
- A couple of detail parts from my stash.

The coloring and weathering was accomplished through a layering process that began by treating both sides of the kit parts with Campbell Tie Stain. This product is no longer available, but I have a couple of cans from long ago. Any dark solvent stain could be substituted. The parts were placed in wax paper, inserted between two sheets of plate glass, weighted and then allowed to dry completely.

The foundation was created by applying multiple thick coats of Gesso, allowing each to dry and then finally lightly carving with a dental pick to give a rougher texture. Coloration was Floquil Concrete with some white and a touch of black added.

The walls and trim pieces of the structure were "colored" with a variety of pastel pencils while still in the flat. The basic color was an ivory white and was used to achieve coverage of 80-90%. This gave the feeling of peeling paint. If you look at the photographs closely, you will see a number of other colors (yellows, oranges, dark blue, dark brown and dark gray) that were then randomly applied. Darker colors were used closer to ground level. A blending stump was used to eliminate obvious dividing lines. A number of well-known modelers have used this technique and I really like it. Next time I think I'll try to make the colors just a bit softer, but I'm still very pleased with my first effort.

For the platform decking and the foundation trim, I used Com-Art weathering solutions randomly applied to different boards. No two boards were done the same. I've found that more realistic effects can be obtained by layering different colors/solutions over each other. Counting the Com-Art solutions and the Hunterline solutions used to weather the roofing material, I must now have at least 10 different brands and home-made mixtures in my

collection. I use them randomly and often inter-mix brands, but am always careful to test for compatibility. The Hunterline stains are available in 12-15 different shadings, including some that are not available in other brands.

The roofing material was applied in the normal fashion, but with an interesting effect. Sometime ago, I acquired the Carl brand rotary trimmer pictured for the purpose of cutting delicate papers and corrugated materials, and it works very well. One of the blades I purchased is called a "Heckler" pattern and it gives a look of random wear on edges. I used that blade to make the edge cuts of some of the Stoney Creek rolled roofing material. From a normal viewing distance, I very much like the effect.

Weathering the roof involved several products. Floquil Weathering Paste (a discontinued product) was first applied randomly over the rolled roofing in a dry-brush manner. (I believe the same effect could be accomplished by simple dry-brushing with a tan or light beige.) This helped dull and lighten the basic color of the roofing. Hunterline stains were then applied in a variety of colors. This was very much a stop-and-go process. Stain was applied, allowed to dry, the effect evaluated and then the process was repeated with yet other colors. There were probably a dozen different applications over the course of a couple modeling sessions.

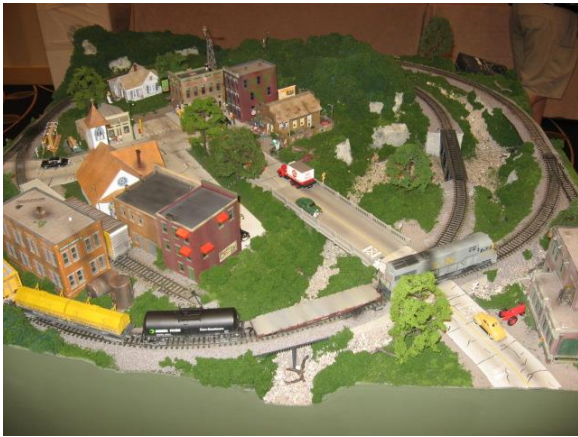
It had been at least six months since I had last built a structure and the process of creating this little structure reminded me how satisfying it could be. Jump in, build something and enjoy!



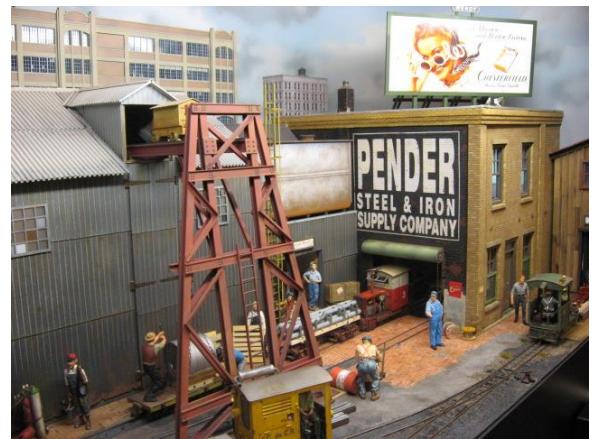
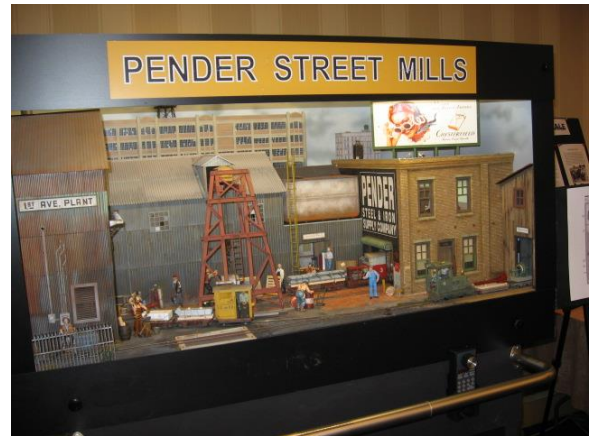
More from the 2013 Peachtree Express

Grif Bond, Superintendent

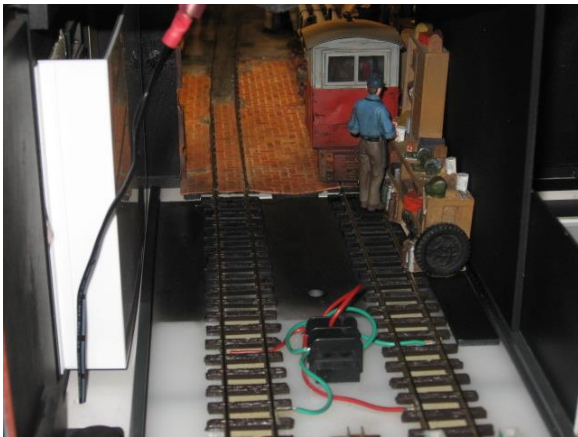
The contest winners have been published in the NMRA Magazine. Here are a few more photos from the convention in July. The "Build a Memory" project layout (4 by 4 in HO scale) was on display in the contest room. Check out the October 2013 issue of the NMRA Magazine for details on this project being coordinated by the NMRA and The Home Depot. Ahearn, Walthers and Woodland Scenics are major supporters.



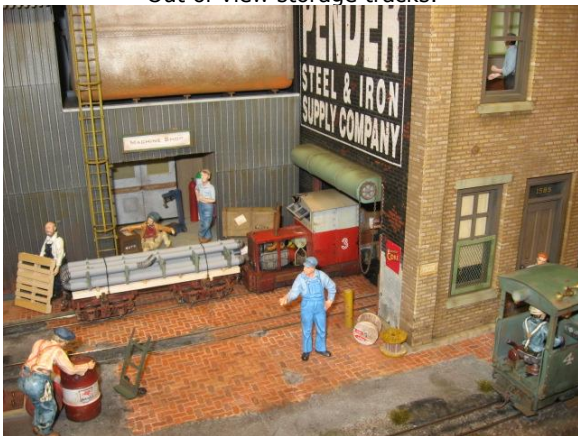
There was an interesting Gn15 scale display layout in the convention room. Pender Street Mills was built by Brian Rudko.



Out of view pivoting section of track.



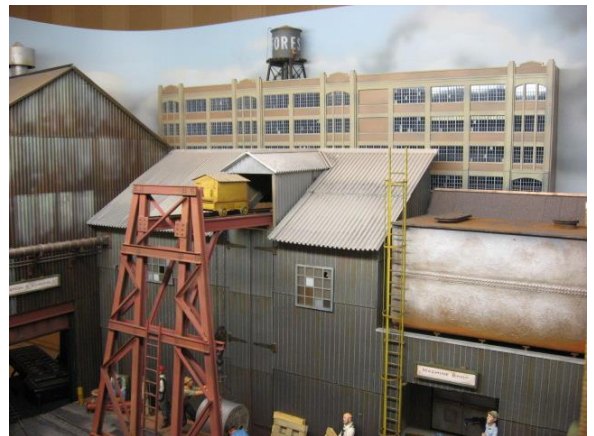
Out of view storage tracks.



Out of view storage/transfer cassette.



Great looking painted on sign.



HO scale flat in the background adds depth to the model.





Walking up to the convention center on Friday morning we found this "locomotive van". It was one of the vendors for The National Train Show. Maybe Train Buddy Kim Parker needs to update his Dodge Ram pickup and use it as a marketing tool!



Yes, metro Atlanta is Chick-fil-A country.

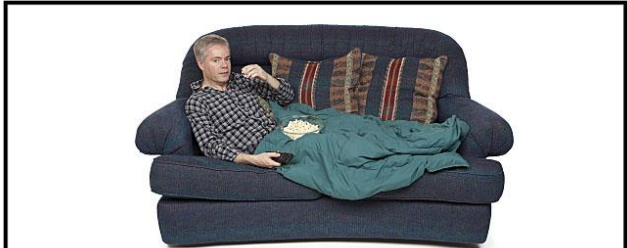
Next month I'll have an overview on the Layout Design Special Interest Group "travel on your own" tours.
Thanks for reading.

Raffle Layout Progress Jack Dziadul

Under **Steve Milley's** leadership the Raffle Layout is coming together very nicely. The following photos from **Bob Bridges** and Jack Dziadul illustrate how things are progressing.







**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. All available to NMRA members for the cost of 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.

Then, get that popcorn ready.

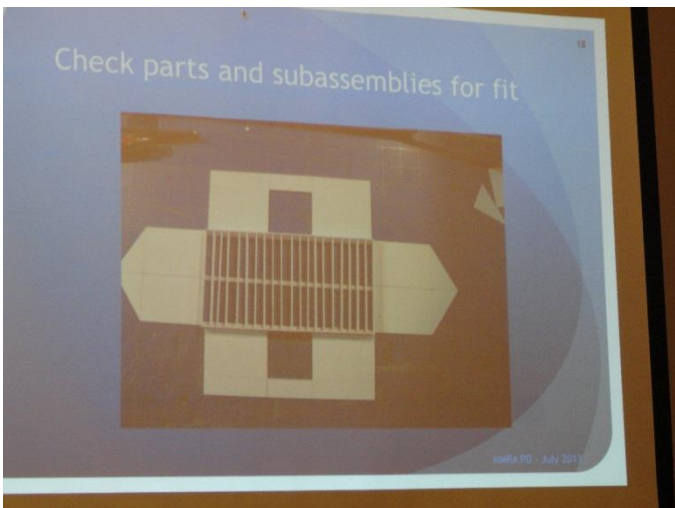
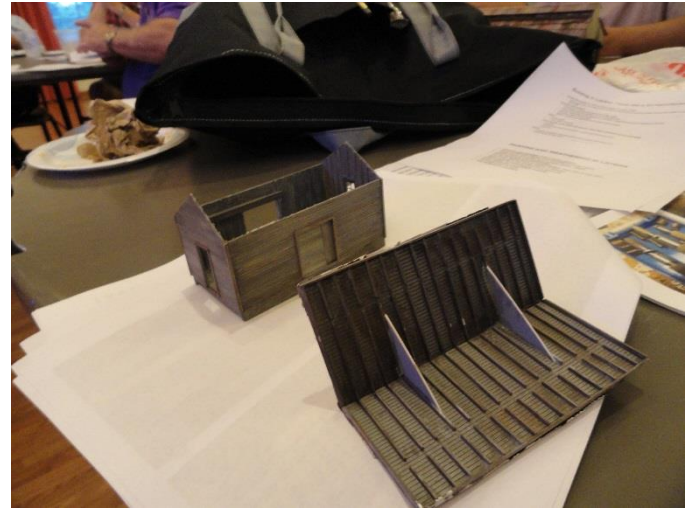
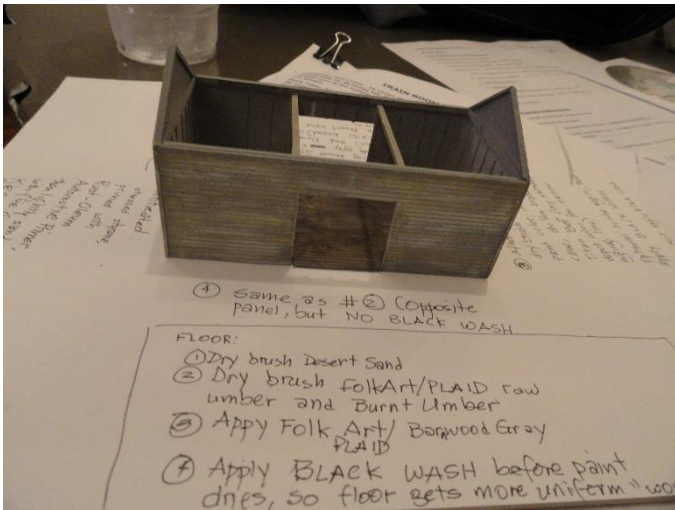


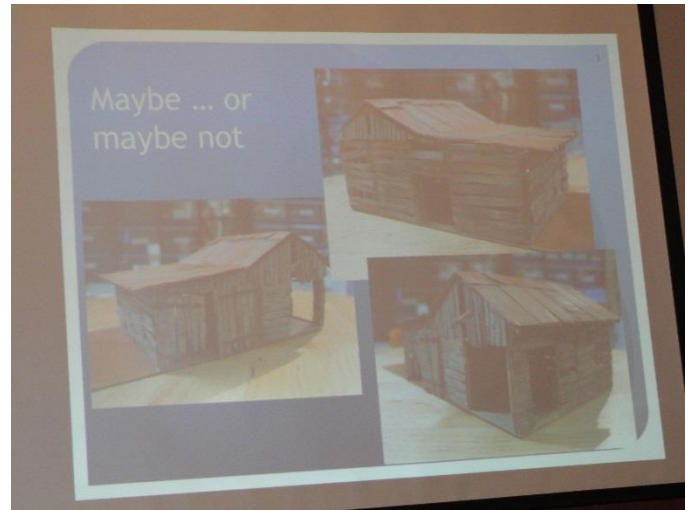
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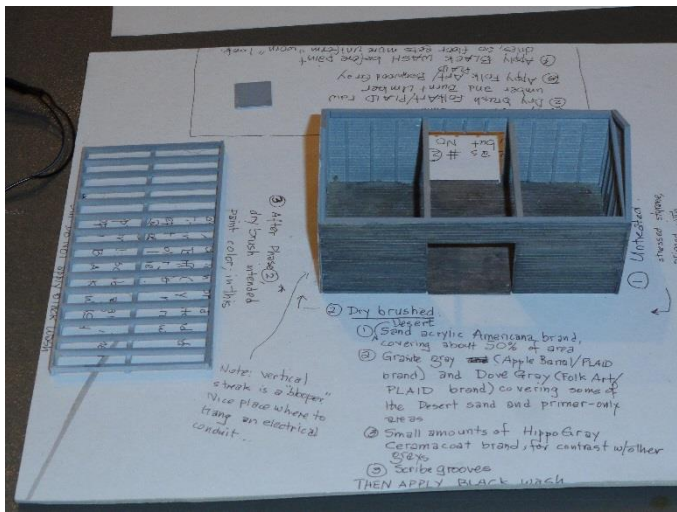
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July CPD Meeting Photos

Jim Murphy







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423-892-2846





Meeting Minutes

Jack Dziadul, Clerk

Carolina Piedmont Division 13

August 27, 2013

Board of Directors

Attendance: **Robert Rousseau, Steve Milley, Jerry Mersch, Jack Dziadul, Jim Murphy, Will Seehorn, Grif Bond**

Call to order 6:30 PM

1. The July minutes were reviewed and approved as posted in The Herald on motion of Will Seehorn with Jim Murphy second.
2. Paymaster's report & Year-to-date budget review approved on Jack Dziadul motion and Will Seehorn second.
3. Modeling contest (popular vote) rules/criteria: Subcommittee of Rob Rousseau and Steve Milley recommended no changes to the present policy. Will Seehorn offered further discussion and will present a re-draft of a proposal for publication in the Herald. Subject tabled for further review at the September meeting.
4. Open business – list of items from recent emails & follow-up items
 - CPD13 web page enhancements, Facebook, etc. (electronic media): Rob Rousseau will set up a test sample of a Facebook account for Board review and consideration.
 - Raffle layout work schedule: deferred to the General Meeting.
 - Standard NMRA standup banner – Division logo: Grif Bond is proceeding with the banner order at a cost of \$235.
 - NRV show tables – November: **Kim Parker** will reserve three tables at the NRV for the Division.
 - 2012 finance review (audit): Steve Milley announced that the audit was completed and that Gene Sing will submit a report.

5. Board adjourned at 6:54 PM

Raffle layout update

Upcoming programs & contests – October - Jim Murphy (signs on buildings) & November TBD

NRV train show volunteers

Refreshment volunteers: August – Joel McCurry; September – Don Hamrick; October - _____; November _____

MMR presentation – Stephen Wood, MMR 507

Popular vote – Scratch built from styrene

Program – Making roads – Lou & Cheryl Sassi

3. Board meeting adjourned 6:52 PM.

Business meeting items:

Call to order – 7:00 PM

Attendance 32 members and 6 guests

Grif Bond reviewed the Board of Directors meeting.

Three of the four candidates for MER Director were present. Grif Bond invited brief statements from each and John Siegel, Gary Tyler and Jack Dziadul introduced themselves to the membership.

There was no AP report this month.

Holiday Trains for Kids – Steve Milley announced the next work session and showed the group **Dave Johnson's** completed structure as well as the locomotives superbly painted by **Mike Humble**.

The upcoming calendar of clinic presenters and contests was reviewed.

Refreshment volunteers: September - **Don Hamrick**.

Dave Derway was the popular vote contest winner.

Lou Sassi presented an excellent PowerPoint clinic on building roads. Lou and his wife, Cheryl, also brought in two highly detailed 2' x 6' modules.

From the Business Car

Grif Bond, Superintendent

NRV Train Show – Volunteers are needed to staff the Division's display at the annual Neuse River Valley (MRV) Train Show on **November 9th and 10th** at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh, NC. We plan to have several tables for display and sale of donated items, plus space for the HO scale raffle layout. We need Division members to staff the display, sell raffle tickets and answer questions. Please sign up for a 2 – 3 hour time slot if you can help. We'll need extra help to sell raffle tickets. Contact me or any member of the Board of Directors to sign up.

2013 MER Convention, C&P Junction, October 2013 – "All aboard" for the 2013 MER Convention in Rockville, Maryland on October 10–13, 2013. The convention this year is a joint effort of the Chesapeake and the Potomac Divisions. The layout open house events include some well-known modelers including Howard Zane and Monroe Stewart.

It looks as though interest is strong as the host hotel, Crown Plaza, is full (sold out) but additional accommodations are available at the Sleep Inn Shady Grove which is next door and within walking distance. Book your room now.

Full details are on the convention web page <http://home.comcast.net/~candp2013/>. If you have any questions about the convention send an email to CandP2013@comcast.net

NMRA National News – Be sure to keep up-to-date with activities at the national level by reading the e-Bulletin (sent via email) and the President's Car column by NMRA President Charlie Getz. There is a discussion on including the Regions and the Divisions under one unified organization structure and one IRS 501(C) (3)

designation. There is a marketing effort starting in November during National Model Railroad month to work in six large media markets and partner with Home Depot for layout building demonstrations. The project is called "Build a Memory" and it is also supported by Ahearn, Walthers and Woodland Scenics. The project layout is 4' by 4' in HO scale. See the October 2013 issue of NMRA Magazine for further details. With a good start in the larger markets, hopefully this will expand next year to additional markets.

Join your fellow railroad modelers at the next Division meeting on Tuesday, September 24 at 7:00 PM. Remember to bring your "roads and streets" for the model contest. Mason Cutchin will present a clinic on the Colorado & Southern.

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.

Free Glass

Grif Bond

I have the following scrap/surplus material available (leftover from my wife's crafting projects) and they might be useful for some modeling project versus trash or recycling. Items are "plate" glass removed from picture frames (measurements in inches).

- 6 1/2 by 8 1/2 - quantity of 24
- 8 by 10 - quantity of 5

If you have a need/use, let me know and I'll bring to the next Division meeting on Tuesday. **FREE!**