

# The Carolina Piedmont Herald

Newsletter of the Carolina Piedmont Division, MER, NMRA

March 2014

### **Next Division Meeting**

Tuesday, March 25, 2014

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 – March 25, 2014 Winter Scene

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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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month**. All material should be electronic, preferably Microsoft Word or PowerPoint. Pictures should be in jpeg format and in color.

# Bob Bridges, Clerk and Editor rkbridges@mindspring.com 919-602-4557

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	18,756	
MER Membership	1,990	
Division Membership	139	
Division Voting Membership	124	
http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/		
Yahoo Group Members	100	
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cpd13/		

Attendance 2/18/14

30 plus 1 guest

### March Program

Scratch or Kitbash Steel Freight Cars Fenton Wells

This clinic will be a brief overview of methods and materials for creating steel freight car sides for modelers who wish to build or kit-bash steel freight cars using sheet plastic as a basic modeling medium.



### Member of the Year Award Recipients

Steve Milley	2010	
Steve Milley	2011	
Jack Dziadul	2012	
Gene Sing	2013	

1

### **Welcome New Members**

Dustin Hedrick, Dale Sisson and Gerard Infanger

### **Board of Directors**

Superintendent (term ending February 2016) **Grif Bond**, Wake Forest, 919-556-7066 <u>grifbond@embarqmail.com</u>

Assistant Superintendent (term February 2016) Jim Murphy, Cary, 919-460-7763 berkshireshort@yahoo.com

Division Clerk (term ending February 2016) **Bob Bridges**, Pittsboro, 919-602-4557

<u>rkbridges@mindspring.com</u>

Division Paymaster (term ending February 2016)

Gene Sing, Cary, 919-460-8227 G249Sing@hotmail.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

Director (term ending in February 2017)

Dan Fisher, Cary, 919-465-2504

fisherdm@bellsouth.net

### Stay in Touch

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

### **Coming Events**

#### **Greatest Little Train Show**

Greensboro Amtrak Station Greensboro, NC March 22, 2014

carolinamodelrr@aol.com
Railroad Prototype Modelers-Valley Forge
Desmond Hotel in Malvern, PA
March 28-30, 2014
www.phillynmra.org/rpmmeet.html

# Norfolk Southern 21<sup>st</sup> Century Steam Excursion

Bristol, VA
April 5-6, 2014
<a href="http://www.wataugavalleyrrhsm.org/">http://www.wataugavalleyrrhsm.org/</a>

#### 12<sup>th</sup> Annual NC Railroad Expo

Hickory, NC April 12, 2014 http://www.tarheelpress.m/APRshow.pdf

#### **Achievement Program Model Evaluations**

206 Widecombe Court, Cary, NC May 3, 2014 G249Sing@hotmail.com

#### **Streamliners at Spencer**

NC Transportation Museum
411 South Salisbury Avenue, Spencer, NC
May 29-June 1, 2014
http://www.nctrains.org

#### **NMRA National Conventions**

**2014** 7/13 - 7/20

Cleveland, OH

**2015** 8/23 – 8/30

Portland, OR

**2016** 7/3 - 7/10

🕮 Indianapolis, IN

**2017** July

Orlando, FL

#### **MER Convention Host Calendar**

2014 October 16-19 Hub City 2014 Ramada Inn, Hagerstown, MD Registration form link:

http://mer.nmra.org/MERConv.html

2015 October Dates TBD

2016 October Dates TBD – Raleigh, NC

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**

March	Winter Scene
April	Scratch or Kitbashed Freight Car
May	Backdrops or Photos of Backdrops
June	Interlocking Towers
July	Cardstock Construction
August	Lighted Passenger Car
September	Signs on Buildings
October	Scenery

### **CPD Meeting Calendar**

Tuesday night's monthly 2014 6:30 PM Board / 7:00 PM General Meeting

#### <u>2014</u>

#### March 25

April 22 May 27 June 23 July 22 August 26 September 23 October 28 November 11 December 9

### **Program Topics**



### **Refreshment Hosts**

March	Vic Bitleris	
April	Jack Dziadul	
May	Dan Fisher	
June	Stephen Wood	

#### The Name Game

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

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Gene Sing, Paymaster

#### February 2014

Balance In Check Book 01/3	31/14 \$6,656.62
<u>Income</u> Total	\$0.00
Expenses Web Fees Awards Achievement Prgrm Supplies Total	\$ 11.38 \$ 110.00 \$ 12.80 <b>\$134.18</b>
	·
Balance In Check Book 2/2	8/14 \$6522.44

### Service to the Hobby

Jack Dziadul

#### Mid-Eastern Region

In 2014 the Officer positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will be up for election. President **John Janosko**. VP PJ

Mattson, MMR and Secretary Mike White will be "termed out" and will not be eligible for reelection to the same office. So, here is an excellent opportunity to run for an open seat.

The unofficial and unconfirmed list of candidates so far has this potential line up:

President PJ Mattson, MMR (current VP)

Vice President: Chuck Hladik

Secretary: John Siegel

Treasurer: Tom Buckingham (incumbent)

Others have also inquired about various positions, so some offices could be contested, which is a sign of a healthy organization.

### **Area Model Railroad Clubs**

#### Cape Fear Railroaders

Fayetteville, NC 100% NMRA Club

http://www.trainweb.org/capefear/

#### **Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club**

919-460-3003 Morrisville Outlet Mall 1001 Airport Boulevard Morrisville, NC http://nrvclub.net/

North Raleigh Model Railroad Club NTrak

In a construction of the factor

http://trainweb.org/nrmrc/info.html

The Sipping & Switching Society of NC <a href="http://www.mindspring.com/~gugliotta/">http://www.mindspring.com/~gugliotta/</a>

Waynesborough Model Railroad Club

Goldsboro, NC

http://wmrrcnc.org/

#### Wilson Area Railroad Modelers

252-237-6778 2810 Forest Hills Road SW Wilson, NC

http://www.rr-modelers.org/

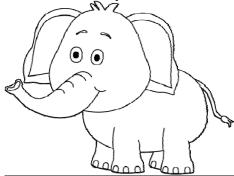
### **Classifieds**

**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 <a href="mailto:rkbridges@mindspring.com">rkbridges@mindspring.com</a>

The ad must include your full name and contact information and will be limited to one item per issue.

# SAVE THE DATE April 22, 2014

White Elephant Sale



Yes, the umpteenth almost annual white elephant sale will be held during the April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. So, clean out your closets. Get some bargain prices on those unbuilt kits and spare parts. Bring home some cash. Better yet, bring home the other guy's stuff.

### **Area Hobby Shops**

#### Support your local hobby shop

#### Bobby's Hobbies

336-444-7565 103 Burlington Avenue Gibsonville, NC 27249

#### **BPCS Hobbies**

910-215-8066 1987 Juniper Road West End, NC

#### **Hayes Hobby House**

910-485-2337 809 Elm Street Fayetteville, NC www.hayeshobby.com

#### **Little Choo Choo Shop**

704-637-8717 500 South Salisbury Avenue Spencer, NC www.Littlechoochooshop.com

#### The Antique Barn & Hobby Shop

252-237-6778 2810 Forest Hills Road Southwest Wilson, NC 27893

#### Train Buddy

919-562-4378 Wake Forest, NC http://trainbuddy.com/

#### Tom's Train Station (closing 7/1/14)

919-388-7246 1239 Buck Jones Road Raleigh, NC www.tomstrainstation.com

### **NMRA** web sites

NMRA <a href="http://www.nmra.org/">http://www.nmra.org/</a>
NMRA eBay <a href="http://goo.gl/BVTIY">http://goo.gl/BVTIY</a>
<a href="http://mer.nmra.org/">http://mer.nmra.org/</a>

**MERmailbag** 

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MERMailbag/ CPD http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/

CPD-Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/cpd13

### **Contest Participation**

2014	February	Total	Winner
Jim Murphy	2	2	1
Jack Dziadul	2	2	
Dan Fisher	2	2	
Rob Rousseau	1	1	
Total entries	7	7	1

*Editors note:* due to weather-related meeting cancellation there was no January contest for 2014.



Jim Murphy

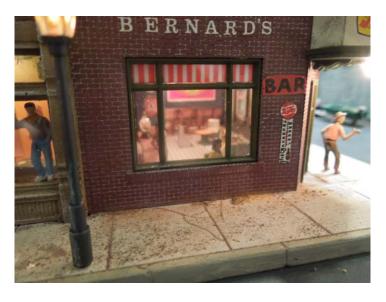


February contest winner by Jim Murphy

A wonder of modeling is to preserve a bit of our own history. The home where we grew up holds the wealth of memories of people, places and events that shaped us into who we are. When home is an apartment building, the neighbors upstairs are your extended family and the street and the stores downstairs your play yard. The center of your world in the 1950's is "The Old Block" on High Street. The first Berkshire Short Line RR began in a back bedroom, the one where the curtains are blowing out the open window, the billowing cloth seeming to be the building's soot

collector. Layout dreams grew on a small piece of plywood on folding legs. The locomotive, cars, lichen, track, and very short structures all had to fit under the bed at night. Safety in tenements is vital, so woe be the kid who blocked access to the fire escape.

Building the model brought a flood of memories. Lighting the various room, businesses, and back porches, called piazzas even by us Irish and French kids, used as much variety as the buildings themselves. Interior detailing is a passion, as the rooms and businesses tell a story about the people inside.



Most room lighting was with 12 volt miniature incandescent bulbs. Nothing says 1950's like warm, yellowish lights. Spot lights and floods are best from individual SMT LEDs, such as the billboard with the smiling engineer. These lights and other LEDs need 3.0 volts dc. The CAFÉ sign, an electroluminescent, also needs a 3 volt supply to a high frequency buck and

boost circuit. The street lamps are incandescent but require 1.5 volts max. The result is 3 power supplies at different voltages. Fortunately, batteries can be replaced by simple DC to DC converters, built up from components on perf board or purchased assembled. Guess which is cheaper and faster.

Whatever your roots, try adding your homestead to your layout, just for the memories.

Jim Murphy, CPD-13

Berkshire Short Line Railroad



### **Meeting Minutes**

Jack Dziadul, Clerk

<u>Carolina Piedmont Division 13</u>
<u>February 18, 2014</u>
<u>Board of Directors</u>

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

Call to order 6:30 PM

- 1. There were two editor date typos in the Paymaster's report printed in the February Herald. The report should have read January 2014 and the ending balance date should have read 1/31/14. The report, as corrected, was approved on motion by Will Seehorn with Steve Milley second.
- 2. The officer 2013 Annual Reports were printed in February Herald.

- Jack Dziadul suggested that we hold a white elephant sale as one was not programmed in 2013. The Board decided to schedule one as a part of the April meeting.
- 4. Grif Bond raised the subject of a special modeling contest. The Board decided to have another contest this year. Jim Murphy will work with Kim Parker to find an inexpensive kit with lots of parts.
- 5. Jack Dziadul raised the subject of disposition of approximately 75 video tapes that were donated to CPD. Although we had volunteers to convert the videos to DVDs, concerns were raised about copyright issues. Alternatively the Board offered videos for sale to members at \$1 each. Any unsold videos would be available at the white elephant sale in April. The resolution was adopted on motion from Jim Murphy with second from Jack Dziadul. Videos were placed on display and member purchases were conducted during the meeting. Funds were collected Paymaster Jerry Mersch. Rousseau accepted custody of the unsold videos.
- 6. Jerry Mersch is working with the IRS to correct the CPD name on the IRS records. Conforming the IRS records to the legal name of the organization will allow CPD to accept matching corporate contribution from the employers of some of our members.

- 7. Steve Milley will follow up with Audit Committee Gene Sing for the final 2012 audit letter.
- 8. Board adjourned at 6:58 PM

### **Business meeting**

Call to order – 7:00 PM Attendance 30 members plus one guest

Grif Bond reviewed the Board of Directors meeting.

Superintendent Bond recognized the services of outgoing Officers Jack Dziadul and Jerry Mersch and Director Rob Rousseau. Each was presented with a framed certificate of appreciate.

Superintendent Bond presented the Member of the Year Award to Gene Sing for his outstanding service to CPD throughout 2013. Gene was presented with a framed certificate of recognition plus a cash prize of \$25.

Vic Bitleris gave the AP report.

- Gene Sing has submitted his documentation for the Master I Builder – Structures certificate. This will be Gene's sixth AP certificate and he is well on his way to becoming the next CPD Master Model Railroader.
- Gene Sing will host an AP model evaluation session at his home on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM. Please contact Gene if you plan to attend.

Superintendent awarded the following prizes for popular vote participation in 2013.

1 <sup>st</sup> Steve Milley	\$25
2 <sup>nd</sup> Jim Murphy	\$20
3 <sup>rd</sup> Jack Dziadul (tie)	\$12.50
3 <sup>rd</sup> Rob Rousseau (tie)	\$12.50
5 <sup>th</sup> Dave Derway	\$5

Superintendent Bond reviewed the upcoming programs and contests.

Steve Milley gave a Holiday Trains for Kids update. The start-up of the next layout build sessions could begin soon. Dick Buchan and Dave Sisson could have some layouts to sell or donate to the raffle project. More details to come.

Jack Dziadul announced that he was unable to secure a meaningful discount for the Streamliners at Spencer event at the NC Transportation Museum. Therefore, member can attend on their own.

### **Annual Meeting**

Superintendent Bond gaveled the Annual Meeting to order.

- 1. Clerk's Call of Roll
  - a. Motion to waive the reading of the roll was approved on voice vote.
  - b. Clerk Dziadul confirmed that we had a quorum.
- 2. Proof of Due Notice of Meeting

- a. December Herald
- 3. Minutes there were no outstanding minutes for approval.
- 4. Annual Reports from the Officers
  - a. Printed in The Herald
- 5. Election of Officers and Director
  - a. Nominating Committee Report –
     Will Seehorn presenting the slate of Officer candidates.
    - i. Grif Bond Superintendent
    - ii. Jim Murphy Assistant Superintendent
    - iii. Bob Bridges Clerk
    - iv. Gene Sing Paymaster
  - b. Director candidates presented
    - i. Danial Fisher
    - ii. Bill Hanley
    - iii. Stephen Wood, MMR
  - c. Floor nominations there were none.
- 6. Election Results
  - a. The Officers as nominated were unopposed and elected to serve two-year terms.
  - b. The results of the election for the one open three-year Director position: Dan Fisher was elected with 16 votes, Stephen Wood, MMR received 9 votes, Bill Hanley received 3 votes and there was one write-in vote for Don Jennings.

Clerk Jack Dziadul reviewed a By-Law change to be voted upon. This was reviewed in the January and February Herald. Upon motion of Steve Milley and second by Jim Murphy Section 1.2 Status, Paragraph 3 was amended to the phase "...including nominal cash or prize awards related to contest participation." The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

John Wallis presented his popular annual prototype quiz.

Vic Bitleris announced the popular vote contest winner: Jim Murphy.

### From the Business Car

Grif Bond, Superintendent

**2013 Member of the Year** – Congratulations to Gene Sing for being recognized as the Carolina Piedmont Division Member of the Year for 2013. A recognition certificate and a \$25 gift certificate were presented to Gene at the February meeting.

National Train Day – The Division has been invited to participate in National Train Day in Cary, NC on Saturday, May 10th. The proposed set-up is similar to last year and will be at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be circulated at upcoming meetings.

**Board of Directors update** - Congratulations to Danial Fisher on his election to a 3 year term as a Director; to Gene Sing on his election as Paymaster for a 2 year term and Bob Bridges on his election as Clerk for a 2 year term. Jim Murphy was re-elected as Assistant

Superintendent and Grif Bond was re-elected as Superintendent.

A "special" thanks goes to the following - Rob Rousseau who recently served the Division as Director; Jerry Mersch who recently served as Paymaster and Jack Dziadul who recently served as Clerk and Newsletter Editor.

See you at the March meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup>!

# SOLDERING FOR MODEL RAILROADERS

By: Stephen C. Wood, MMR

What I am about to write is an introduction to soldering for model railroaders. I will focus on the basics, such as wires, and small components. There is one part of soldering I have not tried which is soldering brass models/parts. When I tell you I am not an expert at all and everything I am about to write is from trial and error as well as the expert help and learning skills of my father Charles Wood.

When I first picked up a soldering iron about twelve years ago while building the 4th layout with my father, I thought it was going to be the most difficult thing I had ever done (which includes basic training in the Army). After a few mistakes and persistence I realized it wasn't any harder than building a model car or building. The first lesson my dad taught me right off the bat was that the solder has lead in.

It was not really a great idea to inhale fumes from the soldering process. In addition, when I went to purchase my first roll of solder he advised me not to buy acid-core solder. The next lesson was the reason some people have a hard time soldering, or get cold solder joints is because the tip of the soldering iron is not clean and shiny. He stressed that a clean and shiny tip conducts the best heat. I learned to keep a wet sponge handy at all times. I have also been told you can use a wet paper towels. I have never tried that method but looking at it I believe that would be too messy for me. A very important rule is that the work and not simply the solder must be hot.

#### Tools You Will Need

Let's first look at what you'll need. First off you will need to choose your soldering iron or gun and possibly a desoldering tool such as the RadioShack® 45-Watt Desoldering Iron. This tool will be useful for mistakes. They will happen. Other items that I keep on my work bench are a stand to hold the iron, a place where my sponge can sit without getting my table wet, and a Helping Third Hand Magnifier. That is a magnifying glass tool which has two sturdy alligator clips for holding PCBs, wires, parts. Another useful tool is a small vice. Another important item is rosin flux. In addition as I set up to solder, no matter what my work bench looks, I always clean the area first. I make sure the chair or stool I am using is at the right height for me. My 7 year old daughter likes to play with my trains and will move the chair/stool and change heights on them. I have

a board on top of my work table that is about 6 feet long and two or three feet wide. I place all the leads on the board before I start or I put the Helping Third Hand Magnifier with the alligator clips on the board. I do not want to spatter or drop any hot solder on my work area or on myself.

When it comes to the different soldering guns, people will argue which is better and why. I was told to purchase a soldering station which I thought looked more like a welding tool. I understand it has a low voltage, high current through its tips. I looked at its price and I thought it was expensive. My father had a soldering gun for many years (I believe over 25) and he informed me that it carried 100-150 watts. Ok, I tried it on the leads and above the layout it worked great, but underneath doing the leads to the buss wires I thought it was too heavy. I then went to my local hardware store and found a soldering iron for around \$20. It was rated 25-35 watts and it worked perfect for me above and below the layout. I was at a friend's house a few weeks ago and he had a Propane Soldering Iron. I haven't tried it but he swears by it. The bottom line here is your soldering iron is a tool for applying heat and I suggest you use what you is most comfortable for you. One last comment on this subject; I believe a low wattage iron is safer for a beginner, but a higher wattage can be useful if you're soldering wire to flex track. Many irons and guns have selectable wattage.

(continued)

### Safety First

Even though I have my own building to house my trains my seven year old daughter finds her way in. Yes she loves to run the trains, but when it comes to soldering just like my tools and X-acto knives I do not solder when she is around. I believe in safety first when working with solder. I do not have a pet like a dog. If I did I would not solder around him/her either. Besides being told not to inhale the solder, I was also told to wash my hands when I finished. Always remember where you put the soldering iron and when not in use put it in its holder. I quickly learned that solder can drip! When wiring leads under my layout to the buss, I learned not to put my leg under my work. I laid a small piece of plywood over my legs to protect from the drips. Another safety feature should be the use of safety glasses. I have had solder spatter, but not in my face. I believe it could happen.

#### Practice Makes Perfect

If you are not sure about soldering, purchase some cheap wire and strip the ends. Like in school or playing sports growing up, you learned with practicing over and over. In addition you need to learn to choose the right soldering iron. I am not saying go out and buy all the different types, but you may be able to borrow one or two different kinds from a friend. After trying these, you will be able to choose the one that suits you best. Learn the basic of soldering, and practice, practice, practice. Your confidence will grow and you will be able to handle complex jobs.

When I first learned to solder one big question lingered in my mind. Did I have a good solder joint? I learned very quickly the solder joint should be shiny. If you have wrinkles (I did at first), or have a frosted look or even if it appears dull 9 out of 10 times you have a cold solder joint. After the solder has cooled, check for a loose wire. If it wiggles, you have a major problem. I learned to tug every solder joint I had just to test my soldering. If it came apart or if the wire was loose that was not a good solder joint. In the beginning I had a lot of loose connections. After practicing and soldering over 400 connections on my fourth layout, I had become proficient. Working now on my fifth layout I have yet to experience a major problem. Remember: wait until the wire has completely cooled before you tug it or check it. If you move it before it cools, you will have a very poor connection.

Once you have mastered the art of soldering things like leads, now is the time to take the next step. Find some old track that you really don't need or at a train show spend a dollar or two on some old used track. When you are ready clean the rail using an extremely fine abrasive, such as number 600 emery cloth (if not available at your hardware store, try a kitchen cabinet maker). Apply a small amount of flux. I use a toothpick; others use the end of the solder. Warning; too much flux will leave a residue when the project is completed.

(continued)

A little advice: soldering rails together without melting the plastic ties is a difficult challenge. I always remove two ties. Once the ties are removed, track is cleaned and the flux is applied I learned from some fellow modelers you apply the heat to one side and the solder to the other. When you solder wire to any rail, apply the heat source to the wire and solder at the joint. People, including me didn't always do that at first. It was trial and error until I went to a great program (Railroad Model University) put on by Division 12 a few years ago. There I learned the proper technique. The most important lesson I learned was this: you tin the wire first as this will make the process go faster. Another lesson I learned was to work fast. You will damage the rails if the heat source is applied too long. Remove the heat source as soon as the joint is complete. I also learned at this clinic that once you are done soldering and before the joint is completely cool, you clean the joint with a track pad or light sandpaper. I learned cleaning the joint while it is still warm or has heat will yield you a better finish.

#### Final Results

One thing I have yet to mention is "what should the final result look like? ". Your solder joints should look smooth and consistent. Remember a light pull/tug on the wires should not be enough to break apart. Do you remember I told you to remove the ties? When you remove them be careful as the ties can be reinstalled.

Now you have mastered soldering your leads, the track and now soldering leads to your track let's take a look at soldering your leads to your buss. First off, the wire can impact the time and heat necessary for a good connection. I had two local members of CPD13 help me with this. I am using 16 gauge wires for my buss. In my attempt to wire my leads to the buss I am using a soldering iron that only puts out 100-140 watts. I purchased a pair of strippers after I was shown what to purchase. You remove only enough insulation from the wire for the joint. Do not strip both buss wired in the same place. Go down 3 or 4 inches. Clean your wire first and then flux them. Make sure your lead wire is tinned. Soldering your leads to your buss is awkward. Be careful to avoid drips or splatter. You need to twist the lead to the buss tightly. This will give you a great connection and your hands are free to work. I have heard but not tested this, when finished and everything is cool then to wrap your connections in electrical tape.

My best advice is take your time and do not rush no matter at what level you are in the soldering process. Taking your time will cut back on troubleshooting later. You are soldering every connection to prevent problems, not cause them.

I would like to add one final point. Take notes so you can remember what the color of each wire represents. Color coding your wires makes maintenance easier and having the color scheme written down is even better.

### **Chicago's Union Station**

story and photos by Jack Dziadul



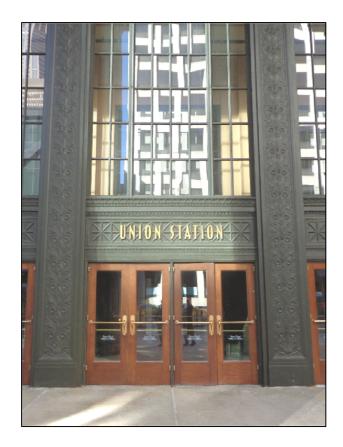
My business travels afford me the opportunity to divert my itinerary for a few photos and quick tours of anything that hints of trains. Below are some pictures of Chicago's Union Station. The 3rd busiest train station in the US serves 120,000 passengers per weekday and traffic is expected to increase 40% by 2040. The 1925 station is owned by Amtrak and Chicago's METRA is the primary tenant. The station saw some upgrades in 1970 and 1992, but substantial upgrades are in the planning stages. The facility will become the Union Station Transportation Center and will incorporate a weather-protected interface with buses and taxis. Underutilized baggage and mail platforms will be reconstructed to provide additional passenger platforms. Wider

platforms will allow elevator and escalator access from street level.

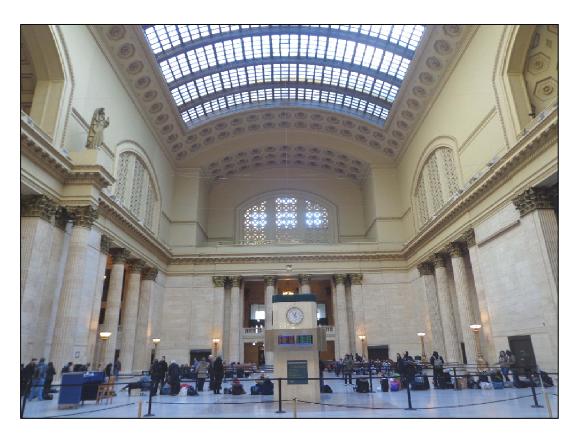
The complete Master Plan can be downloaded from this link:

http://www.cityofchicago.org/dam/city/depts/cdot/C DOTProjects/Chicago-Union-Station-Master-Plan-Study.pdf

Modelling this facility in any of the major scales is out of the question. But selective compression should provide opportunities to represent a major passenger terminal on your layout, including some interior detailing ideas.



## Chicago's Union Station \_

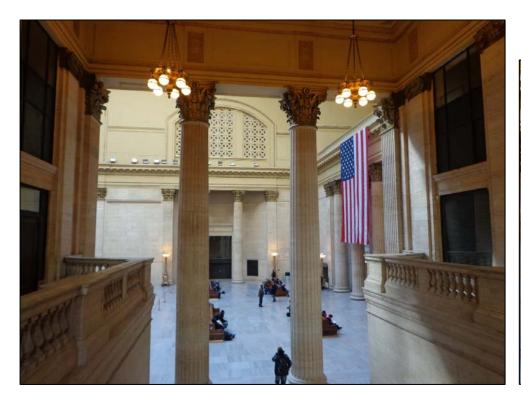




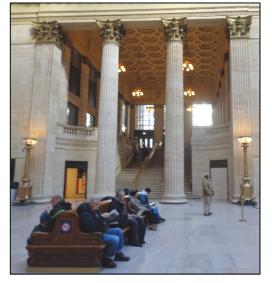


Page 15

# Chicago's Union Station \_\_\_\_\_









Page 16