

March 2012 update for the Central Savannah River Division  
SouthEast Region, NMRA

I do have some news for you this month. The Palmetto Division will hold a meeting on March 24 in Greer SC. They have been gracious in inviting folks from the neighboring divisions to their meetings. Details for the meeting are included at the end of this update.

Membership in your division is holding at 25 members. I recognize this is a small number (the smallest in the region) but I do hope that the NMRA is meeting your needs. I am open to organizing an event for the Division, but I have not exactly been receiving a groundswell of suggestions or volunteers for doing a special event. Yet, there are still plenty of things to do here – keep in mind the model railroad display in the restored Aiken train station, and the Tuesday night operators group. The annual regional convention is fast approaching, and I hope you have considered attending. The latest SouthErner newsletter is available on the internet at <http://ser-nmra.org/publications>. The national NMRA convention will be in Atlanta in 2013. If you've never been to a national convention it is quite the experience. I've been to four (Columbus OH, Portland OR, San Jose CA, and Seattle WA) so this will be my fifth time. The Operations SIG has been very active in setting up operating sessions during the convention, and I have have been working to arrange for Aiken to be a stop to or from the convention.

Hard to believe, but it was right about two years ago that Mike Sherbak and I took on getting the division on its feet. Both our terms of service will be completed in October. If you'd like to volunteer for a position in the division for 2013-2014, please let me know.

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## ***NMRA***

# ***Palmetto Division Meeting***

## **March 24th, 2012**

### Swap Meet

The swap meet is a good place to sell some of your models and kits that that haven't found a place on your layout. No dealers are allowed and there are no fees for any items sold or traded. If you plan on bringing items, please bring them earlier (9:00 A.M.) so they can be displayed before the meeting starts.

### Favorite Model Contest

The favorite model contest is open to NMRA members only and prizes will be awarded. Winners will be determined by popular vote. Any railroad related model can be entered.

Models do not need to be completed. Techniques or tips can also be entered.

### Clinics

Two clinics are scheduled:

The first is "How to build a waterfall" by visiting modeler Joe Hedl from Marshall, Texas. Joe initially presented this clinic at the 2011 Narrow Gauge Convention in Hickory, NC where it was well received. An example of his work was recently published in the March, 2012 issue of Model Railroader (on page 79). Joe is an On30 modeler and considering moving to the GSP area.

"Operations on a Model Railroad" is our second clinic presented by Mike Jensen, our division secretary/treasurer. Mike is a long time model railroader who has been very active in layout operations using state of the art technology and practices. He will discuss many considerations involved in a good operating layout.

### Business Meeting

A short business meeting will bring you up to date with local, regional and national NMRA activities along with local club updates.

### Door prize drawing

We can also accept items that are suitable for door prizes to be given at the meet. This is a good way to let someone else enjoy an item you no longer have interest in.

A \$5.00 registration helps offset meet expenses and includes refreshments and snacks.

### Lunch

For those interested, we will meet at nearby Mutt's BBQ (<http://www.muttsbbqgreer.com/index.html>) for lunch on your own. We have the meeting room reserved giving us an opportunity to have a meal together.

### Afternoon tours

In the afternoon, there will be a special tour of the Central Railway Modeler and Historical Association club layouts in Central, SC. The facility will be open exclusively for meeting attendees. The web site link for the CRM&HA is:  
<http://www.crmha.org/index.html>

The second layout is "The Loganville Local", a modern 1/29 scale proto-free lanced layout by Bob Springs and Harry Kelley in Walhalla, SC. Bob's previous layout, "Miami Rail Service Co.", was recently featured in Kalmbach's Great Model Railroads 2012 (starting on page 86). Photos of the new layout are equally impressive! Due to the distances involved, you may want to consider carpooling.

Make sure you check our web site at <http://www.Palmettodiv.org> for events happening in our area. Mike Jensen continues to update it with new events and news.