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The **SOUTHERNER**



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Fall 2015

The Portland Convention



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SOUTHEASTERN REGION

of the National Model Railroad Association

Around the NMRA and Southeastern Region

National News

The new [NMRA website](http://www.nmra.org) went online during the National Convention. The new site has a modern design, usable on smartphones and tablets as well as computers, updated navigation, and members restricted service areas throughout. Visit the new website at www.nmra.org.

Steel City's John Stewart, Central Savannah River's Steve Pevette, and Piedmont's Peter Youngblood, MMR and John Stevens are presenting clinics at the Cleveland NMRA National Convention. John Stewart's four clinics are available.



NMRA Conventions Special
September/October 2014

SERVICE AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE CLEVELAND CONVENTION BANQUET

The following individuals were honored for their service to the hobby and the NMRA. Congratulations to each of them!

Honorary Life Membership (HLM)
Dart Roaming
Eric Schwabner

Distinguished Service Award (DSA)
William Bivener
Frank English

NMRA Fellow Award (FA)
Helen Boyson

President's Award
Jack Luster

2015 Election Update

Nominating Committee Chair Tony Koester's report was presented to the Board of Directors at the Annual BOD Meeting in Cleveland. Unfortunately, about a week after the Convention Banquet, the only candidate for At-Large-North American Director (ALNAD) withdrew his name from consideration. There is no procedure in the Executive Handbook to cover such an occurrence.

-Gerry and Chuck
Editors

Contact membership chair Rick Coble:
rvcoblenmra@gmail.com

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WAYBILL

Volume 56, Number 4.5

Fall 2015

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ON THE FRONT COVER: McCloud River #25, now several hundred miles from its namesake railroad, had been sold to the Oregon Coast Railroad several years ago. The OCR runs between the towns of Garibaldi & Rockaway Beach on the Oregon coast. PVV

The SouthErner

Official Publication of the Southeastern Region, NMRA

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March 1st (Spring)
June 1st (Summer)
September 1st (Fall)

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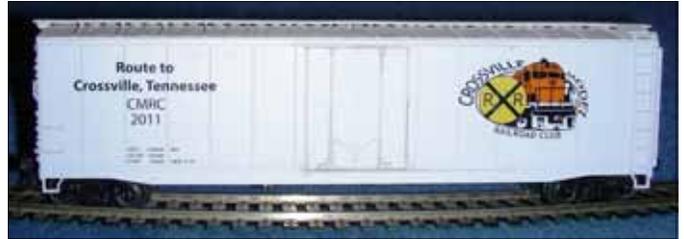
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Editor's Soapbox



As I type this we are three weeks past the NMRA convention in Portland, Oregon, and three days after the passing of my mother. She was 93 so lived a long life and outlived her husband, my father, by 31 years almost to the day. Dad had introduced me to the hobby, when I was six months old, buying me an American Flyer S scale train set that I still have.

Our house was across the street and just west of the wye on the Florida East Coast east-west mainline between Miami and Hialeah, Florida. Neither of my parents were overly thrilled to see just how involved in model trains I was to become, but neither actively tried to dissuade me either. Dad had passed away the same year (but eight months after) I had moved to Georgia. The rest of our family stayed in Florida, living not far from where we had all grown up, while I had moved north to be closer to the mountains where we had vacationed as kids. I love living close to the mountains, however living here meant that I could only see the rest of the family by traveling back home or when they would come up to see me.

For mom that stopped when she could no longer travel. However my 4x8 living room train layout could then finally be started because it would occupy the space where my foldout sofa would form a bed when she would visit. A few years had gone by and now I have decided to use most of the house for a railroad starting with what would be the end of the branch line in the two bathrooms. While this was going on over the winter months, an ice storm occurred in February of this year and that same night mom had a stroke down in Florida.

By the time of the NMRA convention in Portland, she was in assisted living and her health was deteriorating as she was reaching the end of her life. During the convention I was hoping she wouldn't pass away while I was out there sightseeing and working in the contest room. As it happens, back 31 years ago I was originally supposed to have been in Wyoming chasing UP 3985 the same weekend dad died but the move to Georgia had nixed that so I was able to attend his funeral. And so this time as well I would be able to attend mom's funeral without conflict.

As for the convention and the trip in general, I had planned to go out early so I could see everything I wanted to see, and that would be offered as tours during the convention, but which I could not see because I would be working in the contest room. I also wanted to attend the "public" part of the Board of Directors meeting. The front and back covers of this issue show two of the railroads I was able to visit, the Oregon Coast Railroad (OCR), and the Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad (MRSR), the latter I had passed up seeing back in 2004 after the Seattle convention. I had ridden behind the former McCloud River Railroad #25 ALCo 2-6-2 steam locomotive (built Sept. 1925) when it was on the McCloud during the SPT&HS convention in 1999. The Hammond Lumber Company #17 ALCo 2-8-2T (built Sept. 1929) is far and away my favorite ALCo steam locomotive type! It was a real joy to see both in steam, and since I wasn't on a tour, I was able to spend as much time as I wanted with both.

Also on my list was the Evergreen Air Museum in McMinnville, Oregon to see the elusive (for me) Spruce Goose along with all of the other aircraft they have on display. Earlier that day I had stopped in to take a public tour of Bob's Red Mill plant in Milwaukie just south of Portland. This was also being offered as a tour during the convention but is not rail served so was only a General tour. However with my recent move at work to taking

over the Nutrition section (under protest), plus my model railroader's interest in grains in general (several grain elevators on the twin bath layout), a tour of Red Mill was of interest to me. I had planned on seeing the Coast Railroad on Thursday and Red Mill/Evergreen on Friday but, looking at a map of the area while spending the night in Kelso, Washington I decided to reverse the days and see Red Mill on Thursday. This turned out to be a fortuitous change as Bob Moore happened to be at the mill on Thursday while I was doing the tour and we met. From that meeting I lucked into a full tour of the mill, tagging along with Bob and a new salesman while he was showing the guy the whole mill. (WOW!)



Next up was the Evergreen Museum and Spruce Goose after which I drove down to Salem to find my hotel for two nights.

On Friday I drove over to the coast to see the Oregon Coast Railroad and the nearby Tillamook Blimp Hangar, long on



my "wish list" of places to see! Coincidentally this is where the McCloud River #25 was placed on OCR's rails after its long truck ride from McCloud. There is an aircraft museum inside the hangar, however I was there to see the hangar itself which was to answer a long unanswered question from 1957 when my dad & I were visiting the Gold Coast Railroad in Homestead, located on an old World War 2 naval blimp base. The hangar that I stood in at Tillamook was identical to the pair that had been located in Homestead, but which had both burned during the 1947 hurricane. At almost eleven hundred feet long, two hundred seventy feet wide & one hundred & ninety feet high this is an immense metal-sheathed wood structure! For me this was the high point of the trip, but more was to come during the convention which I will relate mostly in pictures later in this issue. PVV



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Education Department
Peter Youngblood, MMR

HOW IT REALLY IS

I know you can relate. Twenty years ago now we moved from the west coast to our new home in Georgia. Model railroaders know the ideal house has a big basement and everything above it is of lesser interest and mainly there to protect the basement from nature's unwanted elements. My wife's persistent searches finally located a house we agreed was satisfactory and affordable. A month later we moved in. At long last I had a big basement! Visions of the "Super Chief" and freight trains traversing the southwest in HO scale appeared effortlessly with every descent into the basement where I lingered long enough to be reminded by a no nonsense voice from upstairs that she was still waiting for me to bring up one of the many boxes we packed when moving. Of course before they were all dutifully carried upstairs, I was already measuring layout space, a workbench area, even room for a small dual-purpose library and crew lounge. It was, I thought naively, not much of an encumbrance that the basement was unfinished, a minor hurdle I would take care of by myself on days off from work. It's o.k. for you to smile about now.

Tom Cusker
Superintendent



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Six, yep, six years later the basement was finished. At least I had enough gray matter to consult with a contractor, an electrician and the guys at nearby Home Depot to help me along the way. I studded the poured concrete walls turning the 2 x 4's sideways to gain a few more inches of precious model railroad real estate before the dry-wall sheets went up. Thin electrical outlet boxes were installed every so often per code. Common sense prevailed and a licensed/bonded electrician added proper circuit breakers to the breaker panel and wired it all up. The contractor approved my displacing two support columns 12 inches so I really could have 36" minimum radius curves, two of which would've otherwise nailed those columns dead center (Murphy's Law?). Cognizant of spousal diplomacy, I built my wife a cedar lined closet for her professional wardrobe, closed in the basement staircase and moved its access door to the bottom landing. By complete coincidence (!), the exterior walls of the wardrobe closet were finished to resemble a standard design Santa Fe depot.

I purchased the required materials, but fortunately hired professionals to install a drop ceiling. They did in one day what would've taken me months and probably several mistakes. The electrician returned and wired in recessed fluorescent fixtures and supplemental track lighting. Last of all, commercial grade carpeting was installed once I had properly sealed the concrete floor. A finished basement is a comfortable environment and a comfortable environment motivates layout construction.

As tedious as much of this work was, it taught me there was more to finishing a basement than I expected, but also that I could do more of the work required. In so many ways, model railroading isn't any different. We learn by doing and we learn from others who are more experienced and, more often than not, willing to help. Any layout construction is an undertaking and a sizeable investment. Plan then plan some more, and be prepared to make adjustments along the way. Take your time. Impatience too easily leads to mistakes, so why not do it right the first time?

My actual layout construction is now in its thirteenth year. I prefer to build everything myself, not exactly the fastest way to get from here to there, but any mistakes are mine and mine to repair. Believe me, they do happen! Much has been done, much is yet to be done. I've learned a lot and never stop learning. Along the way I've been blessed with lasting friendships from fellow model railroaders over many years. This is a great hobby. It educates us in so many unexpected ways. I don't know about you, but I'm having a blast. And that, friends, is how it really is.

Peter Youngblood, MMR
SER Education Program Mgr.



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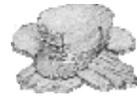
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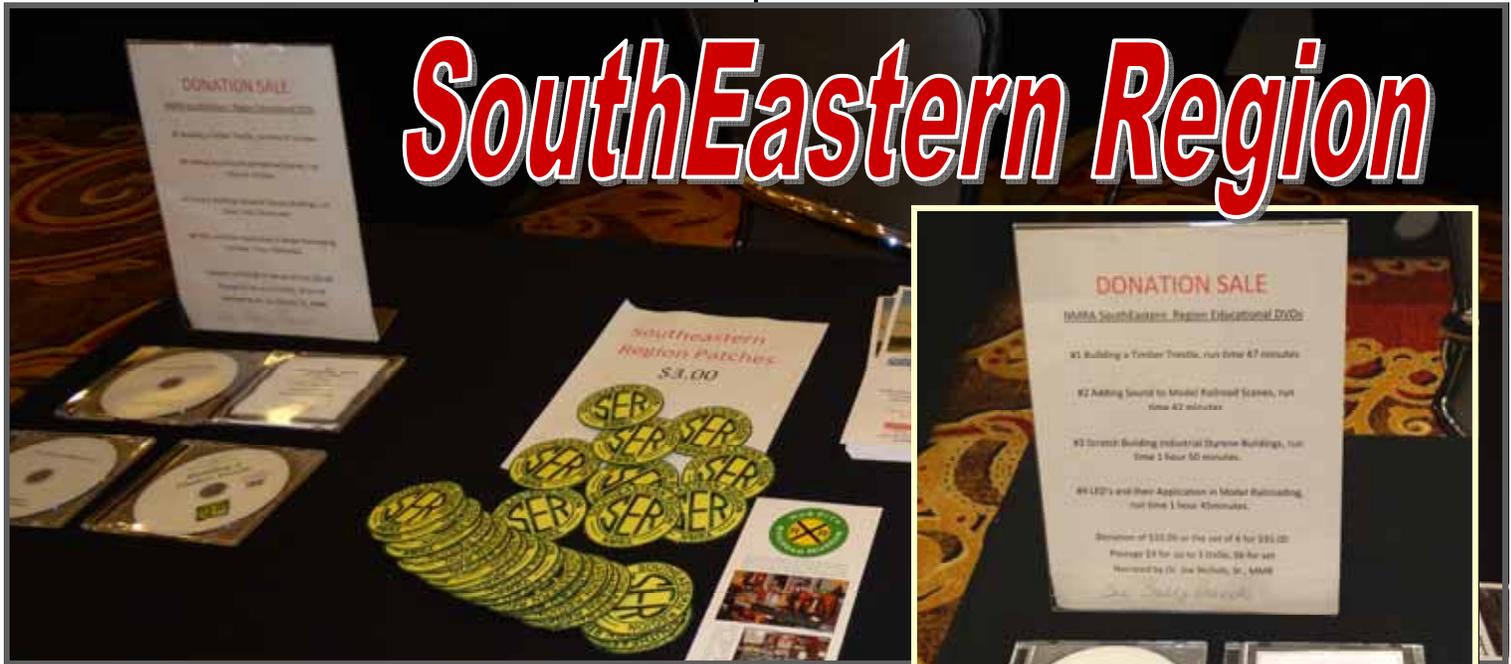


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At Right Our four instructional DVD videos which cover subjects on: Building a Timber Trestle; Adding Sound to Scenes; Scratch Building Industrial Buildings out of Styrene; and using LED's on your layout.

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The President's Car

Glen Hall, MMR



Its fall already, the kiddo's are back in school and the weather is cooler! It's time to think about getting back to work on the old layout be it scenery or a new building. I know, even as much as we like this hobby sometimes we need a little jump start. I get the juices flowing every once in awhile just reading a couple of excellent division news letters that I receive via e-mail. The Steel City Coupler and the Piedmont Timetable. (I'm sure there are other good ones, but I don't receive them) They both contain fine articles on layout projects, track/turnout building and of course division contests or just show and tells. Both contain some fine photo's to go along with the articles so you can see what they are writing about. Drop the supers a line, John Stewart, Steel City and Peter Youngblood, Piedmont to send you a copy of their newsletters.

Randall Watson
President



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Of course, this leads to . . . why doesn't your division publish a newsletter? It could be only 3 or 4 pages to begin with and contain division meeting dates, and maybe a modeling article. I'm sure if you look around you can find someone with some writing talent. Remember, if your division doesn't have a web site the SER site can provide you some space as well as help with some design. It would really be great if all, or at least most, of the divisions had a web site. Think about it, then ask Rick or Scott how to get started.

Grand Western Mining Company

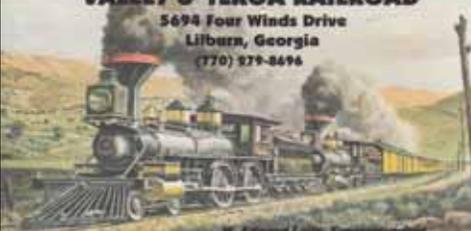
GWMC Railroad Idalee Mine



James & Sally Bando

Back to "jump start", your newsletter could just be the thing to get another members productive juices flowing after missing division activities for an extended period. Supers, give it some thought! Don't forget your division reports for the Southerner, make them interesting and use pictures. Paul always needs help with articles and they count towards the AP certificate for author.

VALLEY & TEKOA RAILROAD
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Lilburn, Georgia
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Remember, up in Greenville we mentioned having received 99 clinic DVD's from National? Well, those same ones are now on the "Members Only" section of the NMRA web site. Check them out, they might give you some ideas.

Keep a steady hand on the throttle and your eyes on the track



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INFORMATION**



At the Contest Awards ceremony at the Portland national convention this summer NMRA Contest Chairman Bob Hamm, MMR (left) awarded Howard Garner, MMR with several Honorable Mentions for his: Ensign Flat #31, C&A Box Car #15812, H&W Well Flat #10 (107 points each), and C&A Box Car #13130 (104 points).

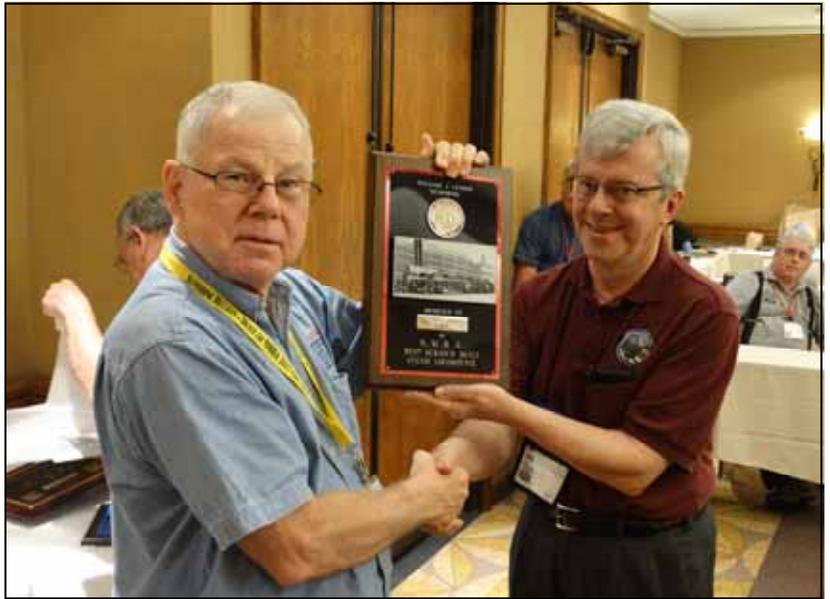


AWARDS CELEBRATION

At the Portland Daylight Express "Celebration of Models" (contest) room we had a room full of modelers and convention attendees for the awards presentation ceremony on Thursday. Many awards were presented by Contest Chairman Bob Hamm, MMR (right) and myself (above) as Photo & Pass Contests Chairman.

At right Bob is presenting the "William J. Lenior Memorial" award for "Best Scratch Built Steam Locomotive" to PSR member Gary Butts for his N scale #1 "Betsy" Madera Sugarpine Co steam locomotive model.

In the photo above I am awarding SSR member Larry Brennan a First Place in the newly added "Working On The Railroad" photo contest category celebrating photos of railroad workers working on the railroad! Larry is my predecessor as NMRA photo chairman, Larry serving from 1988-1999 and me thereafter. PVV



PDX CONTEST HIGHLIGHTS



Entrant	Const	Detail	Conform	Finish	Scratch	Total
Gary Butts	39	18	25	25	15	122

PSR member Gary Butts of Huntington Beach, CA took 1st place in the "Steam" category of the Scratch Built contest with this 0-4-0T tank locomotive named "Betsy". This is Madera Sugar Pine Company #1 modeled in N scale! (*Who says N scalers can't win contests?*)





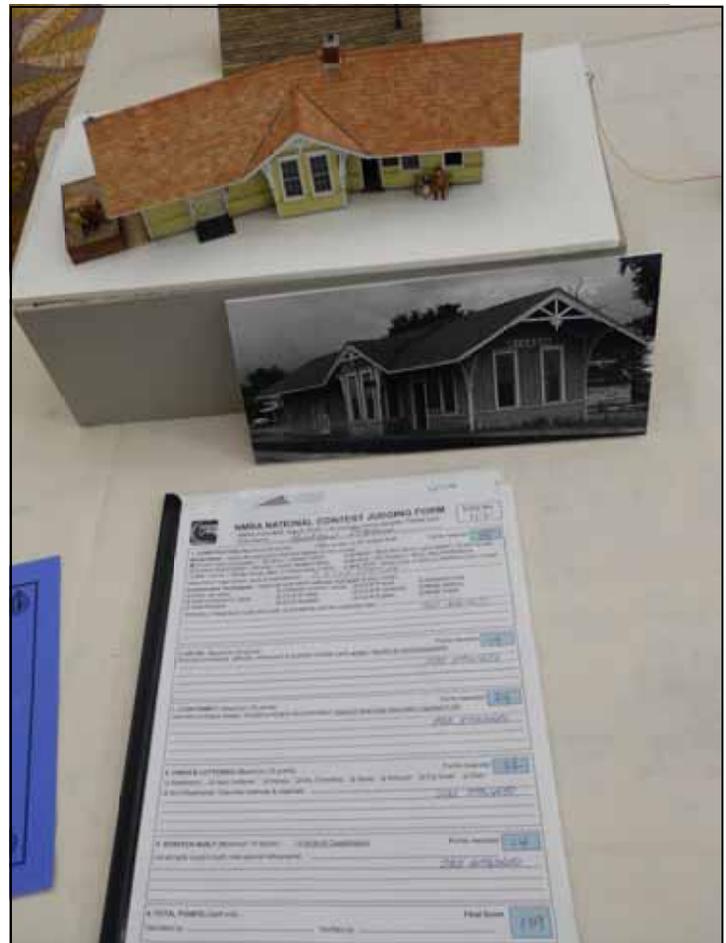
Entrant	Const	Detail	Conform	Finish	Scratch	Total
Tom Knapp	33	11	15	21	6	86

PCR member Tom Knapp of San Francisco, CA won 1st place in the "Steam" category of the Kit Built contest with this nice Nn3 Class B Shay steam locomotive painted and lettered for Pacific Coast Coal & Lumber #7.



Meanwhile fellow PCR member Dave Croshere of Sebastopol, CA earned 109 points, an Honorable Mention and a Merit Award with his interesting HO scale Burton Station in the "Structure" category of the Scratch Built contest.

Entrant	Const	Detail	Conform	Finish	Scratch	Total
Dave Croshere	35	14	24	22	14	109





Entrant	Const	Detail	Conform	Finish	Scratch	Total
Frank Markovich	30	12	15	19	3	79



PCR member Frank Markovich earned 79 points for second place in the Kit Built Steam category with his On3 Heisler #1 seen here.



Elk River Mill & Lumber Company #1

PNR member Bob Parrish earned 121 points good enough for second place in this year's very competitive Scratch Built Steam Locomotive category. This Elk River Mill & Lumber Company engine was modeled in 1/2 inch scale and includes a steam powered winch. A very well done and interesting model. Bob's score sheet appears at right below with no "see attached" notations proving that you don't have to write a book to get a good score!



JUDGES' SCORE SHEET for NMRA MODEL CONTEST

Description: Elk River Mill & Lumber Co. Locomotive #1 Entry No. 133
 (Photos/plans/drawings and additional description as needed to convey to the judges why and what you did in your model. Add as much additional information as needed to provide information about the work you did and how you used it.)
 Category: Scratch built

CONSTRUCTION (Maximum 40 Points) Points Awarded 38

Own plans Followed construction article
 Prototype plans Cut and fit metal Cut and fit cardstock Soldered
 Plans Cut and fit plastic Cut and fit glass Made patterns
 Commercial plans Cut and fit wood Cross-killed or kit-bashed Made molds
 Detail how model was built, complexity of construction, and materials used.

Model from a lot of discarded brass, bronze and steel. All parts well finished. The boiler is made from 0.50 and 0.70 brass. Shot brass boiler has PVC plastic case to allow wheel rotation. All wheel parts made on a lathe. Winch parts made to scale using a gear punch. A NWS back tool was used to bend the boiler. Spine was allowed for DC with mounting from.

FINISH (Maximum 20 Points) Points Awarded 19

Cleanliness, difficulty, refinement, amount of additional detail parts added.

Model is ready to submit for proper sequence in both forward and reverse. The boiler is generally painted with Tamiya white paint to approximate the original. The boiler is painted with Tamiya white paint to approximate the original. The boiler is painted with Tamiya white paint to approximate the original.

REPRESENTATIVITY (Maximum 25 Points) Points Awarded 25

How well the model represents the original in appearance and function.

Prototype plans were used along with photo's and measurements. The boiler is made from brass. The boiler is made from brass. The boiler is made from brass.

LETTERING (Maximum 25 Points) Points Awarded 24

Etched Non-weathered Spray Airbrush Mask and spray
 Decals Hand letter Dry Transfers Photo reduction Photo etching
 and lettering methods in detail.

Lettering by Henry Schmitt Design. Die casted with Tamiya color paint. The boiler is painted with Tamiya white paint. The boiler is painted with Tamiya white paint.

BUILDING (Maximum 15 Points) Points Awarded 15

How well the model is built, including any special or unusual features added.

Model is built with a lot of detail. The boiler is built with a lot of detail. The boiler is built with a lot of detail.

Final Total: 121
 Verified by _____
 © 2002 Rev B, 23 July 2000. All previous versions of this Form are obsolete.





Hiroshi Nakazawa of Tokyo, Japan picked up a 1st place in the "Traction" category of the Scratch Built contest with this very well done with his "Keiyo Electric Railway #303". The model has actual operating doors and folding steps!



NMRA NATIONAL CONTEST JUDGING FORM		Entry No.
<p>1. CONSTRUCTION (Maximum 40 points) Points Awarded 36</p> <p>Model Details - General the description that best applies to your model</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scratch Built (Components) - 1-38 items - 4 points (10%) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kit Built - Built from various parts sources - not per kit plan</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scratch Built (Paint) - 100 items - 4 points (10%) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kit Built - 100 items - 4 points (10%) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Modified - Some built, 100% to finished model</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metal - 100 items - 4 points (10%) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plastic - 100 items - 4 points (10%) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mixed - 100 items - 4 points (10%)</p> <p>Plastic Kit or major custom parts & manufacturer - 100 items - 4 points (10%)</p> <p>Construction Techniques - Select all methods & materials that apply to your model <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soldered metal</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drive gear plate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Followed condition - 100% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut & fit wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Made jigs</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Used preformed plate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut & fit metal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut & fit wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Made metal</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Used kit parts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut & fit plastic</p> <p>Describe in detail how model was built, its complexity and the methods used</p> <p>Using the body shell and some parts from the kit. I made a model with fully operational doors and buffers</p> <p>Always using DCC. The door mechanisms are independent from the body shell and the floor. It is effective</p> <p>In the correct construction and the easy maintenance.</p>		145
<p>2. DETAIL (Maximum 20 points) Points Awarded 15</p> <p>Describe complexity, difficulty, refinement & quality of detail parts added. Identify all commercial parts.</p> <p>Details added include a tea cart, ventilation, ventilation, buffers, window sills and headers, handrails, destination</p> <p>Light switches, electric lights, doors and folding steps, couplers, underfloor equipment and the hand buffers.</p> <p>I added Micro-Mark #44444 HO Scale Four Decals to this model. See attached sheet for more information.</p>		
<p>3. ECONOMY (Maximum 10 points) Points Awarded 25</p> <p>Describe prototype design. Include prototype documentation (source, what has been done, attached to kit).</p> <p>... Main EMU #301-304 built in 1937 by Keiyo Electric Co. Tokyo Branch, Japan, and operated between</p> <p>Shimizu and Maizuru, Shizuoka, Japan.</p> <p>... The car's Keiyo Electric Railway had several street numbers</p> <p>... dimensions provided using the judging sheet at the major stations.</p>		
<p>4. FINISH & LETTERING (Maximum 20 points) Points Awarded 25</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hand Lettered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dry Transfer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spray <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airbrush <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dry brush <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stain</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Weathered - Describe methods & materials</p> <p>... Fully black doors and windows at end of car, attached using laser and Fogal. Attaching decal of</p> <p>... car number and emblem printed on an ALPS-MD printer, attached using semi-transparent paper.</p> <p>... Weathering by brushing using Tamiya Weathering Master in underfloor and trucks.</p>		
<p>5. SCRATCH BUILT (Maximum 15 points) Points Awarded 15</p> <p>Use of parts scratch built, note special refinements</p> <p>... The doors, mechanisms, wheels, folding steps, side window sills, handrails, buffers and interior were</p> <p>... scratch-built. The scheme of driving trucks and trailing trucks constructed with metal and all wheels</p> <p>... picked up power from the track. Lights are able to illuminate using DCC functions, the light circuits</p> <p>... were scratch-built using a copper-clad laminate. See attached sheet for more information.</p>		
<p>6. TOTAL POINTS (Staff only) Final Score 119</p> <p>Tabulated by _____ Verified by _____</p>		





Southern Pacific Model 40 Burro Crane SPO 246

Construction	Detail	Conformity	Finish & Lettering	Scratch	Total	Place
38	18	25	24	15	120	First

DIESEL or OTHER

The “Diesel or Other” category in the model contest covers any powered railroad vehicle other than one powered by “Steam”, or anything that falls under the “Traction” category covering electrically powered locomotives or cars that derive their power from an overhead wire or third rail.

The word “Other” seems to generally refer to what we call “critters”, however in this case we have a powered, *and* scratch built, HO scale Model 40 Burro Crane! Notice inside the circle in the photo below you can just see the axle’s gearbox below and to the left of the coupler. This was one of 87 models in the two judged model contests, Scratch-Built & Kit-Built, and one of 375 models in the Celebration room itself. See more of this national contest on the following pages. PVV

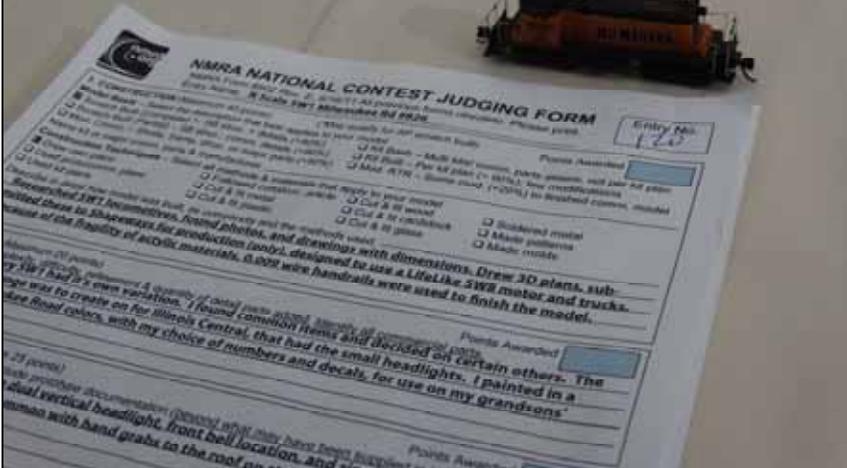


Construction	Detail	Conformity	Finish & Lettering	Scratch	Total	Place
30	8	20	19	11	88	Second

N Scale SW1 Milwaukee Rd #826

PNW member Chip Van Gilder built this N scale Milwaukee Road SW-1 drawing his own 3D plans to create very accurate parts he then assembled into this locomotive. The model earned 88 points picking up a Merit Award and good enough for Second place in the Scratch Built Diesel or Other category.

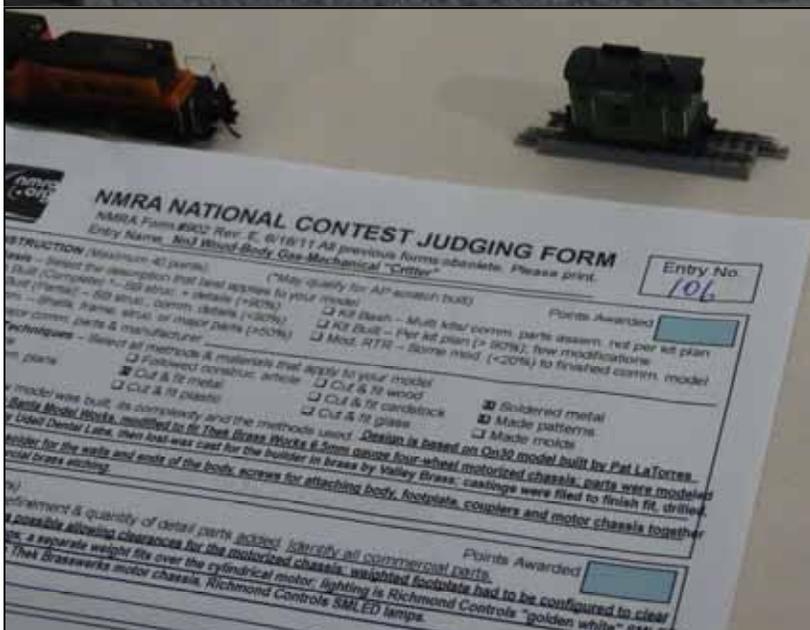
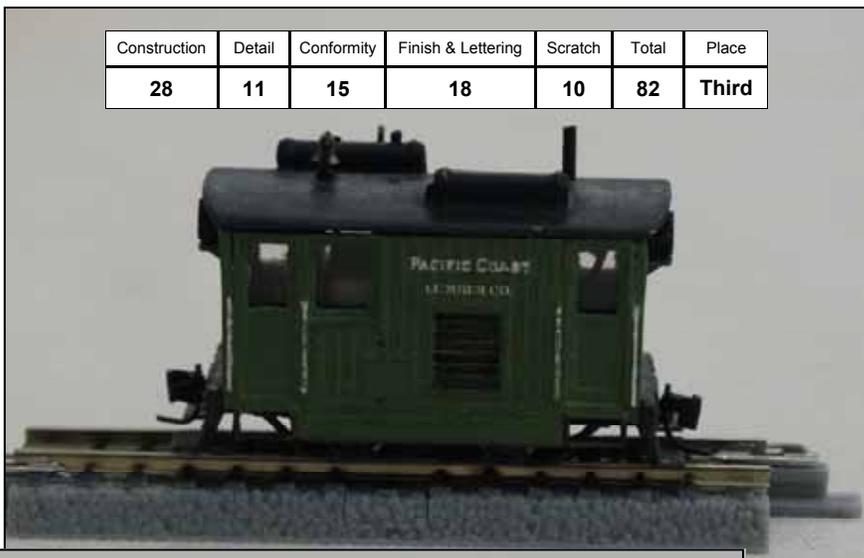
Using a 3D printer owned by a professional company (such as Shapeways) to create any model is acceptable **IF** you yourself created the plans that will create the parts, the 3D printer itself then is consider to be just a "tool" used to make the parts.



Nn3 Wood-Body Gas-Mechanical Pacific Coast Lumber Company "Critter"

Okay folks, PCR member Thomas Knapp built this powered little jewel of a locomotive in Nn3 scale (!) and, while it did not earn enough for a Merit Award, it did earn enough for Third place in the Scratch Built Diesel or Other category!

Construction	Detail	Conformity	Finish & Lettering	Scratch	Total	Place
28	11	15	18	10	82	Third





PSR member Edwin Hall of Henderson, NV won 1st place in the "Diesel or Other" category of the Kit Built contest with this HO scale Southern Pacific ALCo PA-2 in their "Bloody Nose" paint scheme.

Entrant	Const	Detail	Conform	Finish	Scratch	Total
Edwin Hall	32	12	22	22	3	91



Tower Lumber Company Box Cab Locomotive #3

PCR member Pat LaTorres entered a pair of On30 Box Cab locomotives in the Kit Built category placing both second and third place. Both models also earned Merit Awards. Seen here is Tower Lumber Company Box Cab #3 with Box Cab #5 appearing on the next page.

Entry Description	Construction	Detail	Conformity	Finish & Lettering	Scratch	Total	Place
Tower Lumber Co. Box Cab #3	33	14	17	20	6	90	2nd



Entry Description	Construction	Detail	Conformity	Finish & Lettering	Scratch	Total	Place
Tower Lumber Co. Box Cab #5	29	14	19	21	6	89	3rd

Tower Lumber Company Box Cab Locomotive #5

PCR member Pat LaTorres entered a pair of On30 Box Cab locomotives in the Kit Built category placing both second and third place. Both models also earned Merit Awards. Seen here is Tower Lumber Company Box Cab #5 with Box Cab #3 appearing on the previous page.



Entrant	Construction	Detail	Conformity	Finish & Lettering	Scratch	Total
Kyle Gardiner	31	14	21	18	11	95

CPR Van 437265

PNR member Kyle Gardiner's HO scale Canadian Pacific Van #437265 earned 95 points which was good enough for a Second place in the Scratch Built Caboose category. This very nice model also picked up a Merit Award.





West Side Caboose #4

Entrant	Construction	Detail	Conformity	Finish & Lettering	Scratch	Total
Frank Markovich	34	11	17	18	11	91

PCR member Frank Markovich's HO_n3 scale West Side Caboose #4 earned 91 points which was good enough for a Merit Award and Third place in the Scratch Built Caboose category.





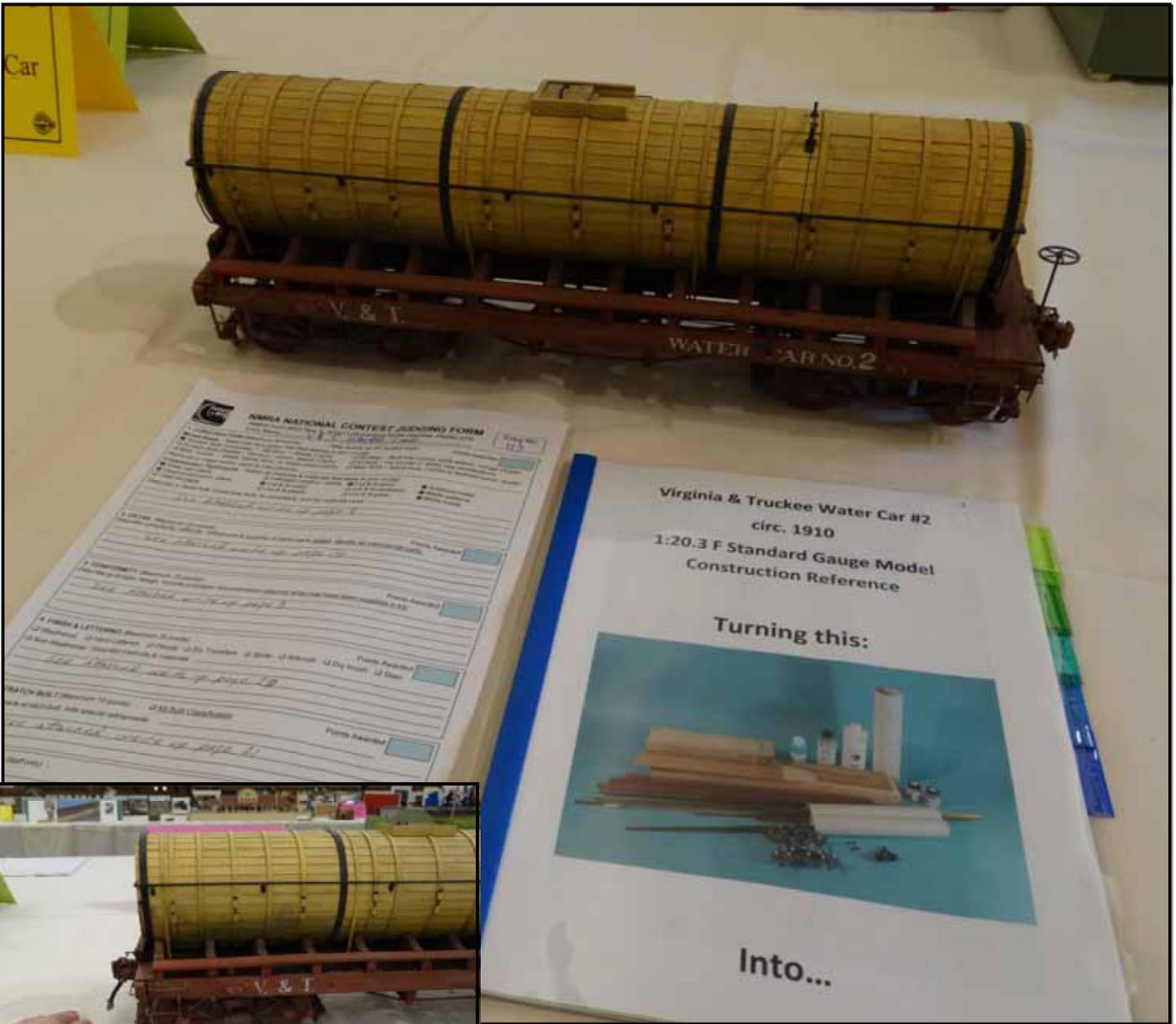
Barry Roth was this year's Gold Award winner with his totally scratch built Virginia & Truckee Water Car No. 2 (circa 1910) in 1:20.3 F scale Standard Gauge. In the photo at right below NMRA President Charlie Getz congratulates Barry Roth (right) for his winning entry. [*Editor's Note: I wanted to be sure I got this photo right as it would also appear in NMRA Magazine so I shot no less than SEVEN photos, this being the last!*]

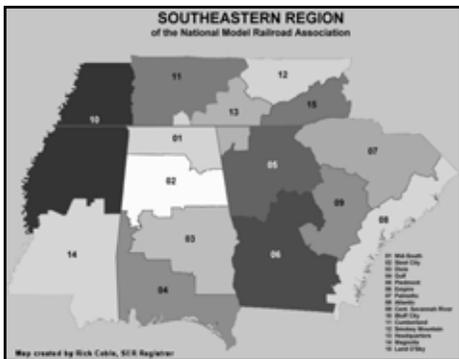
Entrant	Const	Detail	Conform	Finish	Scratch	Total
Barry Roth	38	20	25	25	15	123



GOLD AWARD








DIVISION NEWS



Division 5 – Piedmont News
 Peter Youngblood, MMR SantaFeRailway@aol.com

As I write this I'm packing my bags getting ready to fly out to the "Portland Daylight Express" 2015 NMRA National Convention in Oregon where I'll be participating in the National BOD meeting as the newly elected rookie At-Large North American Director. I'll also perform additional duties there as an instructor for the Modeling with the Masters program. By the time you actually read this I'll have unpacked my bags and returned home to Atlanta. I'll report back any relevant Portland "battle damages" at a later date.



The Piedmont Division is enjoying 100+ members attending monthly meetings and its involvement in regularly scheduled activities. Members participated in "Palmetto Express," the highly successful and most enjoyable SER Convention held this year in Greenville, SC. Palmetto Division Superintendent Ron Lown and his crew did a truly excellent job putting this two day event together. If you missed it, you missed a great time. Next year the "Rocket City Rails" SER Convention is in Huntsville, AL, June 10-11. Mid-South Division Superintendent Sandy Warrington and his convention team are continuing to assemble what's bound to be yet another excellent convention experience. Before then you might want to take in the "Model Railroading in the Digital Age" Mini-Meet on November 6-7 hosted by HQ Northern District Superintendent Tom Shallcross and the Crossville Model Railroad Club. I'll be there and hope you will too. Other out reach activities included Chatsworth Railroad Day on June 13 thanks to Director of Operations, Walt Liles, also Railroad Rendezvous in Kennesaw on July 18. Both events were well attended. Manchester Railroad Days is coming up Oct. 17, the same day the ever popular Piedmont Pilgrimage begins with 80+ layouts again on four weekends through Nov. 22.

The BSA Railroad Merit Badge program is enjoying sold out, or nearly sold out, sessions of 30 Scouts per session. Howard Goodwin is doing an excellent job managing sessions at both Atlanta locations now that John Stevens has retired from managing sessions in Duluth. John dedicate a remarkable twelve years to the program and stays connected as a counselor when needed. The Atlanta program anticipates graduating its 1,000's Scout by the end of the year. Speaking of Howard, he earned his MMR just prior to the SER Convention, so Randall Watson, SER AP Chair and Piedmont Division AP & Contest Chair presented Howard the MMR Certificate and Plaque during the convention banquet and subsequently at the next Piedmont Division meeting. Howard will tell you his MMR number is "DLVI." I thought we should present Howard his plaque at least a few more times, but I was overruled (just kidding!).

Saturday, August 15, was the date this year for the "Train In' Camp" devoted to the Achievement Program. **[Photos seen at left.]** Thirteen members sat in on the 3 hour "Learning how to judge in the AP & Contests" class. Taught by Randall Watson and myself, all attendees learned a lot, some of whom will intern with experienced judges in the Division's October contest.

November 10 are the annual Piedmont Division elections. For the first time members who can't be present to vote that evening will have the option to vote by obtaining and returning an Absentee Ballot prior to the election and a cut off date.

Soon leaves will start falling and outside summer activities will be put on hold until next year as we start spending more time indoors. I'm sure we all have model railroad projects we're eager to accomplish. Once the leaves are bagged and the house made ready for winter, I know I'll be back to spending more time in the basement.

Merry Christmas to all and may the New Year bring you good health and happiness.

These 4 Photos on this page by James Bando

Our Latest SER Fund-Raising Car Kit



No layout can have enough of these cars!

The Southeastern Region of the NMRA is proud to announce the availability of a limited number of Accurail HO scale ACF 4650 cu. ft. covered hopper kits custom decorated for the SER. The car built date is 5/68 and is lettered for Engelhard.

The car, offered in one road number, is injected-molded plastic featuring plastic wheelsets, Accumate couplers and separate brake detail. Orders of two or more cars includes a free easy-to-install replacement decal set, twelve numbers in all.

Cars are available at \$23 each plus shipping \$6.00 for one car. Two cars shipping \$7.00. Three or Four cars shipping \$8.00.

COST BREAK - when ordering four or more cars only \$20 per car plus shipping of \$8.00. Orders of more than four cars add an additional \$1.00 per car for shipping.

Check or money order payable to:
SER-NMRA c/o Randall Watson SER Car Project
730 Morning Creek Lane
Suwanee, Ga 30024

For additional information contact Region Car Chair Randall Watson at: randallwatson1@bellsouth.net

Gift of NMRA Membership to Members of our Armed Forces

The Southeastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association is offering full introductory memberships to individuals serving in this country's Armed Forces and US military veterans residing within the boundaries of the Southeastern Region. As an introductory membership, this is not available to current or former members of the NMRA.

This opportunity has been made possible through the generosity of Piedmont Division member Ed Delattre and his wife Alice.

If you would like to take advantage of this offer, contact your local division superintendent. Additional information is available on the Homepage of the SER website at:

www.ser-nmra.org

If you are a current NMRA member and know someone who may be interested, please have them contact your local division superintendent.

Modeling with the Wrecking Crew

By Robert Beaty, MMR

The Modeler's Tool Box

You do not need a fancy tool box to get started. A good cigar box or a Tupperware container will work just fine. As you collect new (more) tools, you can get a tool box. Be advised a tool box and a fishing tackle box may appear to be the same item, except the tackle box will cost you more because of donations to the US Fish and Wildlife Commission. So shop wisely.

The Basic Essentials: Stuff you really *have* to have

Measuring tools

- Scale rule
- Standard 6 inch metal rule
- NMRA clearance gauge
- Small square
- Small triangle
- A caliper type device

Cutting tools:

- X-acto blade holders with #11 and Chisel blades
- Single edge razor blades and a holder (from the

paint store)

- Razor saw (Zona saw)
- Sprue nippers (Zuron cutter, optional)
- Small cutting mat
- Extra blades

Holding tools

- Small modeler's clamps
- Hair clamps
- Clothes pins
- Straight pins or "T" pins
- Small parts container

Grasping tools

- Needle nose pliers
- Tweezers
- Self locking tweezers or spring closing tweezers
- Glue (ACC or other modeler's cement)

Adjusting tools

- Screwdriver set (Phillips and standard)
- Or a multi-function tool
- Set of small files
- Pin vice/finger drill
- Set of small drill bits
- Sanding sticks or flexible sanding sheets

This is your basic tool kit for almost any project, wood or plastic.

Intermediate level tools for more complicated projects

Cutting tools

- High quality wire cutters
- Zuron rail cutters
- Dremel motor tool with multiple cutting bits & disks
- Large blade razor saw and miter box
- Scapel handle with #11 scapel blades
- Jeweler's saw

Drilling tools

- High speed drill bits for motor tool
- Drill Press
- Reamer set
- Carbide drill bits
- Speed controller for motor tool (if not built in)

Grasping/holding tools

- Bar clamps
- Adjustable Clamps
- Hemostats
- Locking tweezers
- Work bench vice (small)
- Pan head vice
- Multi arm holder with magnifier

Electrical project tools

- Soldering iron (35-40 Watts) with stand
- Solder and flux
- Ohm meter with test leads (audible signal)
- Extra test leads
- Shrink tubing

Maintenance and adjustment tools

- Set of nut drivers
- Screw pick
- Foam work holder
- Complete set of lubricants
- Quartering jig (steam only)
- Track gauge
- Coupler height gauge
- Various taps and dies
- Mirror or glass plate

Measuring tools

- Vernier caliper
- Digital Micrometer
- Center finding ruler
- Scribing awl

Miscellaneous

- Opti-visor

REGION ELECTIONS COMING!

The Southeastern Region Elections are coming up in 2016 - Run for an OPEN SEAT! Positions available are: **President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer** (two year terms) and **2 Director** positions (four year terms). Check the region website for info.

www.ser-nmra.org

Bill Zawacki, MMR
Superintendent



LITTLETOWN RR

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George Bloodworth
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L & N

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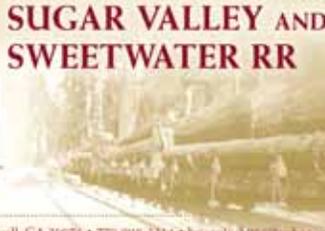
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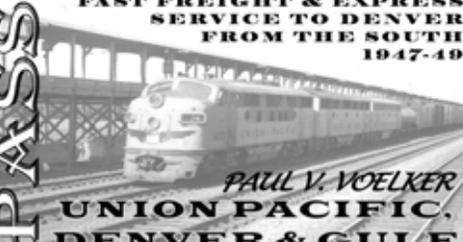
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Colorado & Albuquerque Divisions

3563 Memorial Parkway
Kennesaw, GA 30152

santaferailway@aol.com
678-920-8818 (Cell)



THE CLUB CAR

This is a list of clubs and organizations in the South Eastern Region. Most have some NMRA members. If you have a club that is accepting new members or visitors, please send the information to the editor at: voelkerpv@msn.com. Please note, you must provide a contact name and phone number! If you have a website you can send us the URL as well! 7/2015

Atlantic Division 8 Johns Island, SC Carl S Blum 843-559-3757
Coastal Rail Buffs, Savannah, GA, Nate Stone, (912) 354-2606
<http://www.coastalrailbuffs.org/>
Charleston Area Model Railroad Club, Citadel Mall in Charleston, SC
<http://www.chamrc.com> or Phillip E. Euper peuper@comcast.net
Golden Isles Model Railroad Club, Brunswick, GA
Helio Valdes 912-261-2478 t29b52f4@comcast.net
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Bluff City Division 10 Bartlett, TN, Mike Fleming, (901) 467-7138
The Memphis N-Scale Road Railers
The Memphis Society of Model Engineers—The 1st Saturday Night Group meets at the Highland Street Church of Christ, at 7:30 PM contact Ned for additional information at: nssavage@juno.com

Central Savannah River Division 9 Graniteville, SC, Steve Prevette (803) 392-7684
OFRRA Operators, Tuesday Nights, Aiken SC, Steve Prevette (803) 392-7684

Cumberland Division 11 Brentwood, TN, Bob Hultman (615) 833-5158
Mid-South Live Steamers, Columbia, TN, Hank Sherwood (615) 665-0512
www.midsouthlivesteamers.org midsouthlivesteamers@yahoo.com
Nashville NTRAK, Nashville, TN., Mike Curtis (615) 479-7663,
4900 Rucker Christiana Road, Christiana, TN 37037 macurtis@comcast.net
<http://www.nashvillentrak.org>
Nashville Garden Railway Society, Nashville, TN., Ross Evans (615) 292-6555
Tennessee Central Railway Museum, Nashville, TN,
Terry Bebout, (615) 244-9001 FAX -2120 terry.bebout@earthlink.net
<http://tcr.org>

Dixie Division 3 Prattville, AL, Brett Scott 334-799-3096
Central Alabama Model RR Club, Montgomery/Prattville, AL
Phil Hutchinson, (334) 272-1933
Mobile Society of Model Engineers, Alabama Gulf - Chapter, NRHS
2800 Graham Rd., S. Mobile, AL Call Dave Miller (251) 645-2296 for information
MGB Model Railroad Club, Prattville, AL Visitors welcome. Meetings every Thursday evening and every other Saturday afternoon. Brett Scott (334) 799-3096
www.mgbrr.org
Southeast Alabama Model Railroad Club, Dothan, AL
Mike Porterfield, (334) 774-0720
mporterfield103@charter.net
Wiregrass Steel Wheels Sub-Division, Dothan, AL
Dan Adams (334) 588-3312 or danielmas522@centurytel.net

Empire Division 6 Bonaire, GA, Bill Attaway 478-954-9200
Columbus Model Railroad Club, Columbus, GA,
info@columbusarearailroadclub.com
Flint River Model Railroad Club, Albany, GA, Jimmy Swinn (299) 883-3517
MGMRC - Middle Georgia Model Railroad Club, Warner Robins, GA
Bill Attaway (478) 328-8790 mgmrc@cox.net
<http://www.mgmrc.org/>
CGMRC - Central Georgia Model Railroad Club, Macon, GA
Ken Preston, ken.preston@cox.net
MGRA - Middle Georgia Railroad Association, is a railroad history group that meets in Macon and Gordon, GA Bill Jones, wjones845@aol.com
www.trainweb.org/mgr
Thomasville Model Railroad Club, Thomasville, GA., Ben Strickland (912) 465-3730

Gulf Division 4 Navarre, FL, Reed Ostrander 850-939-1039
Caboose Club, Foley, AL Charles Ebert
Consolidated Model Railroaders (CMRXC), Panama City, FL
Contact: Buddy Black 850-624-6240 black@novatechnologies.com
Emerald Coast Garden Railway Club monthly meeting usually on third Saturday of the month at Noon in the Diner Car of the West Florida RR Museum, Milton FL, Jack Grill (850) 994-7226 www.ecgrc.com
Miracle Strip Model RR Club, Shalimar, FL Ray Follacchio 850-865-8822
<http://miraclestripmodelrrclub.com>
Mobile Society of Model Engineers. Dave Miller (251) 645-2296
Pensacola Model Railroad Club (PMRC), Pensacola, FL
www.PMRC.us HO Division - Steve "Chip" Borona (850) 384-3206
N Division - Terry Tucker (850) 723-5390; Z Division - Glen Hall (850) 982-2795
Southwest Alabama Railroad Modelers (SWARM), Mobile, AL
Glen Samuel (205) 914-0693 Gasamuel@aol.com
West Florida Model Railroad Club, Milton, FL Tom Augustine (850) 944-0471
West Florida Railroad Museum, Milton, FL www.wfrm.org

Headquarters Division 13 www.grampas-trains.com/headquarters.htm
Headquarters Division, Hal Crossland 423-344-0697, Tom Shallcross (931) 484-7565
Chattanooga Area Model Railroad Club, www.camrc.org
Ed Juare (423) 598-9925 raifan@ejpj.com
Chattanooga Society of Model Engineers, Dunlap, TN
<http://csme.livesteamtrains.com> Andy Morrison (423) 344-8502
Crossville Model Railroad Club, Crossville, TN, Tom Shallcross (931) 484-7565
chipmonk4@comcast.net www.crossvillemodelrrclub.org

Land O'Sky Division 15 Hendersonville, NC, Ken O'Brien 828-696-9436
Apple Valley Model Railroad Club, Hendersonville, NC, Ben Bartlett (828) 883-2799
Located in the Hendersonville Station, Open for visitors every Saturday 10 AM—2 PM,
We always consider new member candidates. <http://AVMRC.com>
French Broad e'N'pire NTRAK Club, Henderson, NC <http://www.fbe-ntrak.com>
Chuck Broad (828) 685-2726 hmp3@blueridge.net
1396 Spicer Cove, Hendersonville, NC 28792
Western North Carolina Model Railroaders, Fred Coleman (828) 699-0983

Magnolia Division 14 Jackson, MS, Pat McCarty (601) 955-0510 (cell)
Central Mississippi Model Railroad Association, Jackson, MS
Mississippi Ag and Forestry Museum, 1150 Lakeland Drive, Jackson MS 39216
Nils Larsen 601-432-4500 www.cmmra.org

Mid-South Division 1 Harvest, AL, William (Sandy) Warrington 541-922-7489
<http://www.geocities.com/mta136/>
Northeast Alabama Model Railroad Club, Guntersville, AL
Charles Dick (205) 878-2537 charlesdick@bellsouth.net
Redstone Model Railroad Club, Huntsville, AL

Palmetto Division 7 Piedmont, SC, Ron Lown 864-845-3260
rlown3260@gmail.com
Associated Model Railroads of Columbia (AMROC), Columbia, SC
Clark Gregory 803-781-7912 www.amroc.org
Central Railway Model and Historical Association (CRM&HA), Central, SC
Jim Reece 864-855-3379 www.crmha.org
Piedmont N' Southern, Greenville, SC
Michael Offik 864-884-2165 www.piedmontnsouthern.org
The Carolina Conspiracy (On30 modular club)
Andrew Gillette (803)-316-8128 amn_a_gillette@yahoo.com
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/carolina_on30conspiracy/
Station 187 Model Railroad Club, Greer, SC www.station187.net

Piedmont Division 5 Marietta, GA, Peter Youngblood, MMR 770-966-1661
SantaFeRailway@aol.com
Atlanta Interlocking Model Railroad Club, Charlie Crawford 770-565-1845
<http://home.earthlink.net/~wiles/>
Atlantic Coast S-Gaugers, Robert "Bob" Lacheen Home: 770-578-9937,
Cell: 404-431-8032 ACSG website: www.trainweb.org/acsg
Chattahoochee Express Operating Group, Chris White 770-594-2618
Georgia Association of Narrow Gaugers, Pat Turner (423) 744-0429
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/georgiangers>
GeorgiaNGers@yahoo.com
Georgia Garden Railway Society, Dan Michel ggrschair@hotmail.com
www.ggrs.info/
Georgia Society of Ferroequinologists, Marietta, Bob Hoenes (770) 422-0081
Jasper Roundhouse, Jasper, GA, Jim Derr jaderr@alltel.net
Metro Atlanta N-Scalers, Atlanta, GA,
Charles Leak (404) 262-2969
Model Railroad Club of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA, Terry Weldon (770) 979-0473
www.oscale-atlanta.info
North Atlanta O-Gauge Railroad Club, Roswell, GA, Jeff Pergl (770) 516-6378
North Atlanta Rail Barons, Howard Goodwin 770-529-2103
North Georgia Lego Train Club, James Trobaugh (770)-844-1076
<http://www.nglrc.org> OR questions@nglrc.org
North Georgia Modurail, Jon Cook (770) 993-9620
Northwest Georgia N Track Club -
P.E.P.S.I. Lines, 220 Washington Street, Gainesville, GA
Railroad Model Club of Atlanta, Bob Peppel, (770) 934-4067
S-COG Southern Crescent Operating Group
Joe Gelmini (770) 460-8873 papagel@comcast.net
Southern O Scalers, Dan Mason, 470-385-6638, daniel@masonlawfirmga.com
Tri-State Area Model Railroad, Inc., Thomas Roskelly, (828) 361-2210
thomasroskelly@gmail.com
Volunteer Garden Railroad Club, Vines Botanical Gardens, 3500 Oak Grove Road,
Loganville, GA 30052

Smoky Mountain Division 12 Loudon, TN, Larry Burkholder (865) 408-9903
Knoxville Area Model Railroaders, Oak Ridge, TN,
Larry Burkholder, (865) 408-9903
Mountain Empire Modular Railroaders, Johnson City, TN
East Tennessee State University - George L. Carter Museum. Business meetings held
3rd Tuesday of month at 7pm at ETSU Campus, Brown Hall Science Bldg. Rm. 312
Dr. Fred Alsop, III (423) 929-3733 fredjalsop3@earthlink.net
<http://memrr07.t35.com>

Steel City Division 2 Birmingham, AL, John Stewart 205-989-4889
Black Warrior Model Railroad Society, Tuscaloosa, AL, Bob Way 205-556-3073
Wrecking Crew Model RR Club, Call Jason Parham for information 205-534-6529

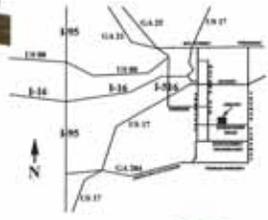
**27th Annual
MODEL RAILROAD
AND TRAIN SHOW**
COASTAL RAIL BUFFS, INC. Savannah's Model Railroad Club
WWW.COASTALRAILBUFFS.ORG



January 23 and 24, 2016
Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday..... 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- DEALER DISPLAYS AND MERCHANDISE
- SOUTHEAST GEORGIA FREE MO LAYOUT
- COUNTRY RROADS LAYOUT
- WILD WEST THEME O GAUGE LAYOUT

2-Day ADMISSION	
General Admission	\$ 7.00
Senior Citizens(60+)and Students. \$ 5.00	
Children under 12 with Parents	FREE
Active Duty Military (with ID)	FREE



NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY
1248 EISENHOWER DRIVE
SAVANNAH, GA 31406



UPCOMING EVENTS

Please send info on your event to the **SouthErneR** at least 6 months prior to the next deadline for it to appear in time or before your event takes place.

DIVISION MEETS

Steel City Division 2 - Regular Meeting
Steel City Division meets the 3rd Thursday of every month (except December), at 6:30 PM in the Hoover Public Library.
Call 205-534-6529 for meeting information

Smoky Mountain Division 12 - Regular Meeting
1st & 3rd Sunday of every month

Land O' Sky Division 15 - Regular Meeting
Quarterly, third Saturday of January, April, July & October.
Locations vary. Call (828) 696-9436 for program information and directions.

Piedmont Division 5 - Regular Meeting
Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church
805 Mt. Vernon Hwy. N.W., Atlanta, GA 30327
Board of Directors Meeting—6pm; Regular meeting—7pm
See website for directions: www.piedmont-div.org

REGION ELECTIONS COMING!

The Southeastern Region Elections are coming up in 2016 - Run for an OPEN SEAT! Positions available are: **President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer** (two year terms) and **2 Director** positions (four year terms).



ROCKET CITY RAILS

2016 SER CONVENTION - HUNTSVILLE

The Mid-South Division is proud to host the **2016 Southeastern Region Convention June 10 and 11, 2016** at the Huntsville Marriott, 5 Tranquility Base, Huntsville, AL 35805

Visit the Rocket City Rails website to register and get more Information on the clinics, prototype tours, layout tours, operating session, non-rail activities, and schedule:

<http://midsouthnmra.org/convention.htm>



Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad

ALCO 2-8-2T "LOGGING MIKADO"

The American Locomotive Company (ALCO) was formed in 1901 by the merger of ten locomotive plants. Together they produced over 90,000 locomotives (steam, electric, and diesel-electric) from 1870 to 1969. In 1922, ALCO offered a 2-8-2 (two lead wheels, eight driving wheels, two trailing wheels) "Mikado" type locomotive with a saddle-type water tank, placing the weight of the water over the driving wheels to increase adhesion. Twenty-one 2-8-2T ("T" for "tank") locomotives were constructed between 1922 and 1929.

The Hammond Lumber Company's sawmill and line of operations was in Summit, CA. In 1942, Hammond purchased two ALCO 2-8-2T locomotives from the Crosscut Western Company of Winna, OR. (LW #10 and #11), becoming their #16 and #17. Following a large forest fire in 1945, the #17 was stranded in the woods for almost 20 years at a camp known as "The Gap".

In 1965, Mr. Carl Peterson, a lumberman from Klamath, CA built a road into "The Gap," disassembled the #17 and trucked it to his small logging operation. He started a small tourist railroad, the "Klamath & Hopper Valley," and ran the #17 from 1966 until shut down by the gas shortages of the 1970's.

In 1980, the #17 was purchased, and later donated by Mr. Ramon Scenic Railroad founder Mr. Tom Murray. The #17 was rebuilt for operation in 1994-95.

Of the twenty-one ALCO 2-8-2T logging Mikados built, the #17 is one of six survivors.

Hammond Lumber Co. #17 Specifications:

Builder:	American Locomotive Company Schenectady, New York
Construction No.:	68057
Construction Date:	September 1929
Type:	2-8-2T "Mikado"
Weight:	84 tons
Traction Effort:	28,500 lbs.
Cylinders:	18" bore x 24" stroke
Driver Diameter:	44"
Boiler Pressure:	180 psi
Fuel Oil Capacity:	1,000 gals.
Water Capacity:	2,200 gals.



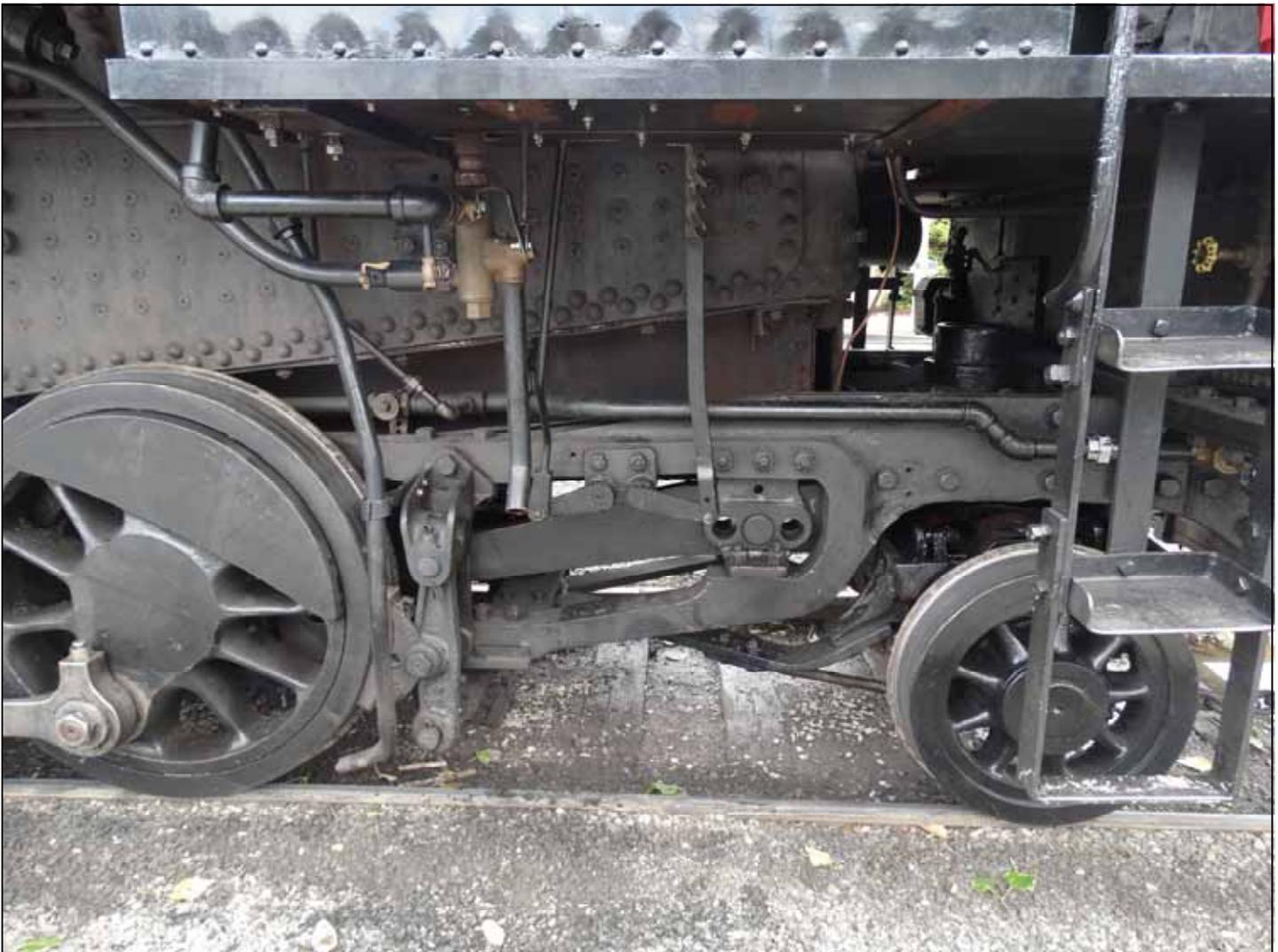
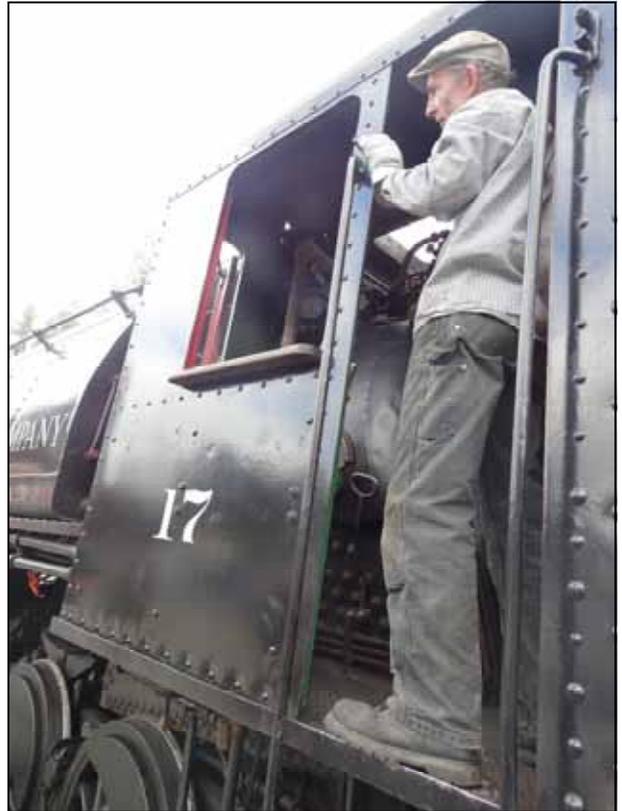


Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad runs from Elbe, Washington to Mineral, Washington where their shops and the logging museum are located. The engine shown above, Hammond Lumber Company #17 is an ALCo product from 1929 and far & away my absolute favorite steam locomotive! Pacific Fast Mail produced a model of this very locomotive, one of which has been in my possession for many years. The model was built to run on DC, we will see how well it performs on DCC when I get it converted for my home layout! So needless to say I took a few (50 or so) photos of this engine.

The following several photos are but a small selection of photos taken while I was visiting and riding on the Mt. Rainier Scenic. The trip was enjoyable, the train consists of four heavy weight vintage passenger cars. There were a few times the loco slipped her wheels as we worked our way to Mineral but it was a very wet day with on & off rain.















Taking on Water









The Logging Museum









**SOUTHEASTERN REGION
NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JUNE 5, 2015 AT GREENVILLE, SC**

MINUTES

The following Board Members were present:

Glen Hall, MMR, President; Alan Mole, Vice President; George Gilbert, Secretary; Peter Youngblood, MMR, Director; Paul Voelker, Director; Bob Beaty, MMR, Executive Advisor.

The following Division Superintendents were present;

Buddy Black, Gulf Division; Peter Youngblood, MMR, Piedmont; Sandy Warrington, Mid South; John Stewart, Steel City; Pat Taylor Headquarters North; Ron Lown, Palmetto; Larry Burkholder, Smoky Mountain; Steve Prevette, Central Savannah River; Mark Stone, Steel City (Asst. Super); Ken O'Brien, Land O'Sky

The following Committee Chairman were present;

Randall Watson, Achievement Program Chair; Peter Youngblood, MMR, Education Chair; Buddy Black, Asst. Education Chairman; Rick Coble, Membership Chair; Randall Watson, AP and Car Project Chair;

Opening and Introductory Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 AM on June 5, 2015 by President, Glen Hall. Vice President, Alan Mole, verified that there was a quorum present so the meeting could proceed. Glen Hall noted that all present were acquainted with each other and dispensed with the round of introductions.

Glen Hall reported that the region has some new Division Superintendents. They are:

Gulf Division: Reed Ostrander

Dixie Division: Brett Scott

Magnolia Division: Pat McCarthy

Minutes of Previous BOD

The president called for a reading of the minutes from the February 2014 BOD meeting. As the secretary started to read said minutes Alan Mole moved to accept the Minutes as published electronically. Bob Beaty seconded and the motion was approved.

Officer and Committee reports.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of Treasurer, Sally Bando, Alan Mole presented the Treasurer's Report. Alan noted that Sally's report had been passed to all present. He stated he did not intend to review all numbers in the report but did note that major purchases (since last BOD) were for Region Cars and the Southerner. Alan then asked if there were any questions on the "numbers".

Receiving none he proceeded with the report. The first topic was SER clothing; Sally had reported that the vendor had has very light sales of SER items. She asked do we want to proceed with having the vendor set up to do an embroidered shirt (in addition to current printed shirts). After a short discussion Bob Beaty moved that SER authorize \$50.00 to set up the embroidered shirts. Paul Voelker seconded and the motion passed.

Next Alan mentioned good news that Peter Youngblood had provided then gave the floor to Peter to elaborate. Peter reported that the Delatre family had donated a total of \$4000. to the SER to assist active military modelers and veterans to initially join the NMRA. This gift to be spent over two years. Sally has recommended that this gift and expenditures from it not be included in the SER budget; rather it will be handled separately.

As Alan started to read the remaining Treasurer's Report a motion was made (by George Gilbert) and seconded (Bob Beaty) to accept the Treasurer's Report as published electronically. Motion carried.

Vice President & Superintendent's Report

Alan stated that next was the Superintendent's reports. He noted that, with 1 exception, all Supers had sent in a report. He then offered the floor to any Supers present.

Steel City: *John Stewart* reported that SC is alive and well with about 100 members. The division has a new website up and running. Noted that this was important since SC was doing the 2017 convention. Bob Beaty asked for the Web Site URL. It is www.scd-nmra.org.

Smoky Mountain: *Larry Burkholder* reported that the division has gotten a Facebook page set up.

Palmetto: *Ron Lown* reports the division has been busy with the convention. He noted they have about 100 members.

Central Savannah River: *Steve Prevet*, in response to Alan Mole's query, said he will have a report to discuss when the topic of small divisions is discussed.

Dixie Division: Alan Mole reported that *Brett Scott* had sent a last minute report for Dixie. They have had the first division meeting since Phil stepped down. Elections were held with Brett Scott becoming Super. Assistant Super and Secretary/ Treasure were elected. The division held a train show on September 19 at the National Peanut Festival grounds.

Web Site and E-News Letter Report

Rick Coble reported that the newsletter continues with 6 issues published since the February 2015 BOD meeting (3 about the convention and 3 otherwise). Rick noted that the newsletter had become too long and he had worked to shorten it. He felt it was most important to get out news of coming events to members. Rick also noted that he and Scott Povlot had discussed the amount of merchandise (CD's, Region Cars, Patches) the SER has for sale. They believed info about the merchandise and how to purchase should be on the SER Website.

Membership Report:

As Membership Chairman, Steve Prevet, began the Membership Report Peter Youngblood asked about the lag time between a time a member joins or renews and the time that member shows in the membership report. Steve said it is running about 1 month from actual join/renewal until it shows up in the division membership report. Steve did point out that the region gets credit for the member from the time of his actual join/renewal. He also says this is referenced to the time that National has completed the join/renewal processing (Steve has no information about the time from submission of a membership form to National actually enrolling that person as a member). With that question answered Steve recalled that we had seen a "bump" in membership from 6 month memberships taken to attend the 2013 Atlanta National Convention. The membership gain from that bump is now gone; very few of those people actually renewed for full membership. So, discounting the bump, SER membership has held pretty steady for the last 3 years. Steve noted that membership details can be seen in his electronic membership reports. He noted that Central Savannah River and Magnolia are tied for smallest division at 27 each.

Rick Coble next talked about the idea for a Membership Table that could be set up at public events to help recruit NMRA members. The price for setting up such a table with a nice banner was found to be about \$300. Rick asked for membership suggestions about how to build/acquire a membership table. Glen then stated that Sandy Warrington had approached him about the member table idea to have something ready for the convention. Glen noted SER had already refunded John Stewart of SC Div for the banner they procured. That cost was about \$135. Glen referred Sandy to John. Following that Sandy has submitted an estimate for a banner with stand for \$132. A motion was made and approved to cover Sandy's \$132 cost for banner (moved by Bob Beaty, Seconded by Peter Y.). Glen then appointed a small committee to determine if we want to provided a membership table setup for all the divisions. John Stewart was appointed to lead the committee and Sandy Warrington agreed to be on the committee.

There ensued some discussion about what was on the membership table. The SC banner was described as vertical at 18" wide x 72" tall. The table contained old NMRA magazines and other published material. Bob Beaty that a pin is available from Model Railroader that has the slogan "Ask Me About Model Railroading". These pins are available at \$75 / 100. Peter Youngblood noted that the pins were great conversation starters.

Rick Coble reported that Lost Member letters were being sent out, but the return response has been very low. Rick suggested it might be better (and less costly) to send the lost member letters electronically.

Bob Beaty posed the question "What did we not do?" to retain those modelers who took a 6 month membership to attend the Atlanta Convention. Steve Prevet mentioned that the smaller divisions were simply unable to follow up. Larry Burkholder noted that in his division many of the RailPass members contacted did not renew because they believed they were not active enough in the hobby to benefit from NMRA membership. Continued discussion noted that most people contacted noted a reason for not joining NMRA that was not based on dues cost. Your Secretary added that he knew of people in Nashville who considered the RailPass as simply a cost to attend the convention; from the outset they intended to not join as regular NMRA members. Others agreed with that point. Peter Youngblood noted that National is also perplexed about how to retain RailPass members.

Glen then interrupted the membership discussion to discuss the subject of Divisions verifying their officers. He explained that NMRA requires Regions and Divisions to verify the list of officers and provide that list to National. That list is required to insure that the NMRA insurance is available to the various Divisions and Regions. It is also required before National will distribute the Region dues share to the Regions. Glen noted that we did get all the divisions verified but we missed the due date. Fortunately National was forgiving.

Back to membership it was mentioned that some organizations will assign a sponsor to a new member. That sponsor's task is to get the new member integrated into the group. Peter noted that Piedmont had tried a sponsor system but had trouble getting volunteers to be sponsors. There ensued a discussion about the difficulty of getting non-NMRA members (particularly those in active clubs) interested in joining the NMRA.

Editor's Report

Opening the Editor's Report Glen Hall asked the Editor, Paul Voelker, to summarize his written report. Paul then addressed the concern about missing or delayed issues by noting that the only missing issues were the Online versions. He stated there were no missing print issues. And he noted that as of this Board Meeting all the issues (online and printed) were caught up. Paul explained that after the 2013 Atlanta National convention he did get behind in producing the Southerner. This was caused by both post National activities and by personal issues. He has worked through the problems and gotten the 2013, 2014 and 2015 (through spring) completed so everything is caught up. Paul noted there is a June 15 deadline for input to the Summer issue. Steve Prevette then requested that an e-mail notice of Southerner deadlines be distributed to Div. Supers. Glen noted that Paul had previously sent deadline notices and requested that he continue to do so. Continuing the discussion Bob Beaty remarked that Paul Voelker does almost the entire work of producing The Southerner. That this is perhaps an undue burden on one person. Some discussion ensued with the resulting conclusion that the best way the membership could help with the Southerner was to provide material to Paul. Paul does not want or need help with the business of producing the publications but not having to write all the content would be a suitable assist.

Education Report:

Education Chairman, Peter Youngblood, opened by stating that John Stevens had stepped down as Piedmont Boy Scout Program chairman and that Howard Goodwin will pick up for John. Peter noted that John had done a great job for 12 years and that he continues as the National Boy Scout chairman as well as the NMRA National Secretary. Piedmont intends to honor John's 12 years of BSA service.

AP Chairman, Randall Watson, reported that the AP has issued 14 certificates since the Panama City BOD meeting. Two of those were MMR's, they were for Howard Garner and Howard Goodwin. Randall also mentioned that as of the start of this meeting he had received one additional completed MMR SOQ. Randall mentioned that AP participation was good but he would certainly like to see more. Bob Beaty asked about the turnaround from national for certificates. Randall said that lately it has been very good; on the order of about 35 days with some happening quicker. It was noted that national batches incoming SOQ's and processes them on a once a month basis.

Good and Welfare

In the absence of Good and Welfare Chairman, Dave Anderson, Glen reported that Dave is continuing a good job sending out 63 letters since his last report

John Stewart informed us that Steel City had just lost a long time model railroader Alvin Kestler.

Old Business

Glen Hall noted that the meeting now moves to Old Business starting with convention updates. The convention chairman was not present so the floor was given to the upcoming convention committees.

Convention Updates

2016 Huntsville: Sandy Warrington reports that he will have a video presentation at the Saturday night banquet. He lists the following about the upcoming convention.

Hotel: Huntsville Marriott adjacent to the US Space & Rocket Center

Tours: Currently some problem with the Sheffield yard tour; hopefully resolved by the convention. The Huntsville Depot tour will be available at about \$15. The N. AL RR Museum tour will be available at about \$35. The Intermodal Center will be an available tour; should be a bus for that. And the Space Center is right next to the hotel with a discount provided to hotel guests.

Convention brochures are available at for distribution and the Convention Web site is up.

2017 Birmingham: John Stewart tells us that that the 2017 Convention will be at the Bessemer Convention Center where the 2010 convention was held. There are several hotels near the convention center. And John reports there will be a 13,000 sq. ft. Train show.

2018 undecided: Glen stated that convention chairman Fred Coleman was still twisting arms for 2018. It was mentioned that Piedmont was considering doing the 2018 in one of the outlying communities. Alan Mole noted that Howard Goodwin had mentioned the possibility of having the 2018 convention in Dalton GA. A G scale (garden RR?) convention has been held in Dalton so the location is known to be a good RR convention destination. One little wrinkle is that Dalton is not in Piedmont, it is actually in Headquarters, South. Piedmont is willing put on the convention but in Dalton HQ Division would need to be involved.

SER Support of Local Fund Raising Initiatives

Alan Mole reported that there were no Fund Raising Requests

SER DVD Project Update

Bob Beaty told us that after a period of begging and pleading for candidate CD subjects that, in the space of 48 hours, he got offers of 3 possibilities for Region CD's. They are:

John Stewart's Intro to JMRI

Peter Youngblood's Basic Model Railroad Photography

John Stewart's longer program describing JMRI implementation on his large home railroad.

After some discussion a motion was made by Bob Beaty to accept both of John Stewards JMRI CD's as a package of 2 to be the next Region CD offering. The motion was seconded followed by additional discussion in which it was noted that the CD's were of the clinic John presented at the Cleveland National Convention. (Bob had already checked and found National had no restrictions to SER using John's clinic CD's). The motion was voted on and passed. Bob Beaty then recommend the project be turned over to Alan Keller. Finally Bob stated that Peter's Photography clinic should be the next Region CD.

SER Car Project Update

Randall Watson presented his report on the Region car project. As usual these minutes cannot capture the eloquence and completeness of Randall's report. In summary SER now has the Englarh Covered Hopper car in HO available for sale as the current region car. The cars are available at \$23 each or 4 for \$20 each. An order of 2 or more cars will include a renumbering decal set.

{At this point Peter Youngblood interrupted with a note from Rick Coble regarding a communication from Howard Goodwin. Howard wanted the Boards opinion on his having one of the Boy Scout training sessions captured on video. After a brief (i.e. very brief) discussion the board's opinion was that a video of the BSA sessions would be a good thing to do.}

Mini-Meets

Crossville, TN 2015

Dates: November 6 & 7, 2015. The meet will be held in Roan State Community College. There is no cost except for security. A schedule will be published by July 1, 2015. Several Clinics, including a 3D printing clinic are scheduled. There will be a Mini-Meet web site available where the schedule will be published. Lunch at the College will be \$10.

Aiken, SC 2016

Dates: September 23, 2016. Per Steve Prevette, the format will be much like the 1st Aiken Mini-Meet. There will be a Friday op session available and a Friday night BBQ. Don Barnes B&O layout will be open (with improvements) as will Steve's layout. The Aiken Depot will be open. Alan Mole asked about efforts to expand this meet over the last Aiken meet. Steve says they plan to have meet info on the web site 1 year out and they will have flyers available in Augusta and Columbia.

2017 Mini-meets

Alan Mole reported that there is nothing selected yet for 2017.

SER Shirts / Clothing

In Sally Bando's absence Glen Hall reported that Cafe Press had in recent times sold 2 SER shirts and one tote bag. (Glen admitted to having one shirt in his luggage and your secretary was wearing his, thus accounting for the 2 shirts.) Glen reminded all that the clothing is available and will be expanded with embroidered shirts earlier authorized in this meeting.

Strategic Plan Update

Bob Beaty opens his discussion by referencing the Draft SER NMRA Strategic Plan document which had been distributed earlier. Bob stated that the document he and Jason Parham prepared was a skeleton that needed to be filled out to be complete. He noted that his views on how to fill out the skeleton were added (in red) at the back of the document. Bob recommended that managers of each of the SER's activities (convention planning, AP program, etc.) work on developing a measurable goal for their activity. (note: Bob spoke for both he and Jason since Jason was unable to attend this meeting).

Glen Hall stated that the various activities, particularly Education, need to set goals and measures that could be accomplished in a 3 to 5 year time frame.

Steve Prevette related, from his professional experience, that we needed to be careful to not create measures that have no meaning behind them.

Glen commented that the Communications section fell naturally under Rick Coble's work with the newsletter, calendar, and web site. He asked Rick to work on that section of the plan. He also asked Rick and Steve to look at the point about surveys mentioned in the plan document.

On the section concerning Membership Skill and Development, Glen took this upon himself to ponder and get back to the Board later.

Steve Prevette suggested that the Division Alignment problem be included as part of the Strategic Plan. Bob Beaty injected the thought that maybe some divisions are not just too big in area but too big in number of people. Suggesting that these large population divisions might be better managed if split. There ensued a short discussion about correctly aligning divisions. Bob reminded all that the plan was a Draft and Glen requested that Bob and Jason include the concerns about division alignment as part of the plan. This meant the Plan needs a section added on Organization.

Glen suggested that something like hobby promotion within the Region should be added. He charged this to Alan Mole.

There was a short discussion about Fiscal matters which is Sally Bando's responsibility. In Sally's absence Alan Mole stated that the SER is a 501C3 organization.

Peter Youngblood observed that some of the categories in the plan are redundant in that the same problem is covered in different sections of the Plan. Bob Beaty reminded all that the Plan was a Draft and then agreed that some topics were included in multiple categories. He felt that there were different nuances of a topic that might need to be considered in different categories.

Glen Hall concluded the discussion by recognizing that this is a draft that will need revising. He noted that he has assigned some parts of the work to various people and said he would go home and study the draft and see if and how some other parts should be assigned to other people.

Realignment of Divisions 8 (Atlantic) & 9(Central Savannah River)

Glen Hall noted that Steve Prevette had prepared a report describing the division realignment need and gave the floor to Steve. Steve has previously stated the problem in both 8 & 9 is too few people to get a "critical mass" need to do anything. Steve said he had been working with Carl Blum (div 8 Super) and found Carl to be very discouraged because he is not getting any response from his members. On the question of merging divisions 8 & 9 Steve reports that his members are split 50/50 on whether a merger will help or hurt the problem. Steve also noted that a merger of 8 & 9 will create division with weird geometry; "T" shaped with the long coastline and large spread between populations of modelers. Steve added he sees as possible courses of action either do nothing or join with Carl to propose a merger of 8 & 9. He states Carl is agreeable to the merger. They need to survey both division members to see their opinion. A discussion ensued concerning the lack of activity in both divisions and questions about how to encourage more activity (such as a mini-meet in Charleston). No real answers were proposed. Steve reiterated his position that SER needs to address a re-alignment of all divisions such that divisions have at least 75-100 members. More discussion ensued. During the discussion one idea put forward was to involve division 8 (Palmetto) and shuffle some counties between 7 and 9. Bob Beaty suggested forming a committee of division supers of 7,8,& 9 to work out better division boundaries between the three divisions. Randall Watson agreed stating his opinion that such a committee be formed to make recommendations to bring back to the BOD. To conclude this discussion Glen Hall appointed a committee consisting of Steve Prevette, Carl Blum, and Ron Lown. The committee is to come up with a plan and present to the BOD.

New Business.

Resignation and Appointment of Director

In view of Peter Youngblood being elected to NMRA National At Large North American Director and thus becoming ineligible to hold SER office he has submitted his resignation as SER Director. Glen Hall accepts the resignation and proposes appointing Buddy Black to fill the remaining term of the directorship Peter has vacated. Bob Beaty moved and Alan Mole seconded that this recommended action be approved. Motion carried; Buddy Black is now an SER Director.

New Pike Ad Manager

Rick Coble has been serving as the Pike Ad Manager and has requested to leave this position. Rick notes that Pike Ads

are sold by the Treasurer, Sally Bando. His role is to work with a graphic artist to get the members pike add designed. Then he does the work needed to get the cards printed and delivered to members. Rick invited anyone interested in this job to e-mail him for a more complete description of the job. Glen interjected that we prefer some from the membership (not the BOD) to step up and take this job. Randall Watson pointed out that work done on a job like this will earn them person doing the job points toward the AP Volunteer Certificate.

Clinic CD Library and Librarian

Glen Hall stated that he had received 99 CD's from National. These CD's were clinics from past National Conventions. Glen said we need to appoint a Librarian and develop procedures for making this material available to (initially) division Supers. Alan Mole suggested Dave Gelmini for the librarian job. Dave does a similar job for Piedmont. Randall Watson suggested that copies of the entire CD set be made for each Division Super. Bob Beaty raised the question can we copy these CD's since they are NMRA property. Glen noted that the labeling on the CD's does not specifically say copying is prohibited, but it doesn't say it is allowed either. Peter Youngblood took on the task of finding out if the CD's can be copied. Then Bob Beaty suggested publishing a list of the CD's in Rick Coble's SER newsletter. That was followed by a suggestion that the full CD's could be placed on the website for downloading. That suggestion opened a new question; was it right to put NMRA owned material on a website where non-NMRA members could access it? The consensus to the last question was simply NO, not fair to people who paid for NMRA membership. Bob's follow up was to state his opinion that the simplest course was to make copies for the Div Supers and stop there. Finally it was noted that the board still did not know what legal right we had so we should wait till Peter returns with the answer to the legal question. At this point Glen Hall tabled the matter until we had the legal issue answered.

Items from BOD and/or Membership at Large

At this point President Glen Hall asked if there was any New Business from either the BOD or the Membership. He received no response from either party so that concluded New Business.

Glen Hall announced that the next board meeting would be held at the Crossville, TN Mini-Meet scheduled for November 6 & 7, 2015. The BOD meeting will be on Saturday November 7 at 9am at the location made available by Crossville.

With the date/time of the next BOD set Alan Mole moved that this meeting be adjourned. Bob Beaty seconded and the motion passed.



No layout can have enough of these cars!

The Southeastern Region of the NMRA is proud to announce the availability of a limited number of Accurail HO scale ACF 4650 cu. ft. covered hopper kits custom decorated for the SER. The car built date is 5/68 and is lettered for Engelhard.

The car, offered in one road number, is injected-molded plastic featuring plastic wheelsets, Accumate couplers and separate brake detail. Orders of two or more cars includes a free easy-to-install replacement decal set, twelve numbers in all.

Cars are available at \$23 each plus shipping \$6.00 for one car. Two cars shipping \$7.00. Three or Four cars shipping \$8.00.

COST BREAK - when ordering four or more cars only \$20 per car plus shipping of \$8.00. Orders of more than four cars add an additional \$1.00 per car for shipping.

Check or money order payable to:
SER-NMRA c/o Randall Watson SER Car Project
730 Morning Creek Lane
Suwanee, Ga 30024

For additional information contact Region Car Chair Randall Watson at: randallvwatson1@bellsouth.net

**SOUTHEASTERN REGION
NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
NOVEMBER 7, 2015 AT CROSSVILLE, TN**

MINUTES

The following Board Members were present:

Glen Hall, MMR, President; Alan Mole, Vice President; George Gilbert, MMR, Secretary; Sally Bando, Treasurer; Howard Goodwin, Director; Jason Parham, Director

The following Division Superintendents were present;

Peter Youngblood, MMR, Piedmont; Sandy Warrington, Mid South; Larry Burkholder, Smoky Mountain; Howard Garner, representing Palmetto Division; Tom Shallcross, Headquarters North

The following Committee Chairman were present;

Randall Watson, Achievement Program Chair; Peter Youngblood, MMR, Education Chair; Randall Watson, AP and Car Project Chair; Howard Garner, Contest Chairman

The following NMRA Officials were present;

Peter Youngblood, MMR; At Large North American Director

Opening and Introductory Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 9:02am, November 7, 2015 by President, Glen Hall. Vice President, Alan Mole, verified that there was a quorum present so the meeting could proceed. Glen Hall noted that all present were acquainted with each other and dispensed with the round of introductions.

Minutes of Previous BOD

The president called for a reading of the minutes from the June 2015 BOD meeting. As the secretary started to read said minutes Alan Mole moved to accept the Minutes as published electronically. The motion was seconded and the motion was approved.

Officer and Committee reports.

Treasurer's Report:

Sally Bando reported the following amounts in SER accounts:

Checking:	\$20,769.51
CD's	<u>\$29,256.51</u>
for total cash	\$50,026.39

from that subtract the following designated cash

Restricted Cash	\$ 5,745.20
Delattre Designation	<u>\$ 1,912.00</u>

for total non-restricted cash: **\$42,369.19**

Sally stated that when she got the disbursement from NMRA national that some people had paid \$20.00 for a 2 year Southerner subscription. This resulted in some extra fund to SER. Sally also noted that the above numbers do not include \$50.00 petty cash Randall Watson has associated with region car sales. She also noted that the Treasure has a \$30.00 petty cash fund. Both of these to be turned in at years' end.

Peter Youngblood asked if all Atlanta area hobby shops carried Southerner ads. Sally answered that not all did. A discussion ensued about shops that did and did not carry Southerner ads.

Also about hobby shops, Sally stated she thought it would be a good idea to contact hobby shops in an area where a mini meet was to be held. If we contact them some time prior to the mini meet, we might be able to sell them Southerner ads.

Sally then noted that Southerner adds as we now sell them appear in both Print and Digital versions of the magazine. She thought we might make more if we sold Print and Digital ads separately. Someone asked about the current cost of ads. They are:

3/4 page	\$300
1/2 page	\$200
1/4 page	\$100
1/8 page	\$ 60
crawler's	\$ 40

This for ads that appear in all issues of one year. Sally as also sold a few one-issue adds at \$30.

Peter Youngblood suggested that we list the rates in the Southerner. Glen Hall stated that the Southerner already lists the ad rates.

Larry Smith asked how do NMRA life Members (who are not SER Life Members) get notified about and pay for the Southerner Subscription. The discussion that ensued revealed that this is an unanswered problem.

Alan Mole moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Vice President & Superintendent's Report

Vice President Alan Mole opened the Superintendent's reports by turning the floor to Superintendent's present starting with Larry Burkholder.

Smoky Mountain Div.: Larry Burkholder reported that Smoky Mountain was doing well with about 56 members. They hold quarterly meetings with 15–20 present. The next meeting will a January New Year dinner. Larry reported that officers are elected for a 2 yr. term and non are due for reelection this year.

Headquarters (North): Tom Shallcross reported the division has 13 members. Tom noted that most of the Division activities were done as part of the Crossville Club. The Division and the Crossville club are hosts the mini-meet and this BOD meeting. Glen Hall thanked Crossville for hosting this meet.

Mid-South: Sandy Warrington reported the Division has 49 members (going to 50 as soon as one man gets his NMRA dues paid). Sally Bando asked if the Division has a Treasurer for the Convention yet. Sandy replied that Tom Albro will be the convention Treasurer and Registrar. Sandy then noted that Decatur people were working with that city as they remodel their Depot to become a Police station and Museum. The museum will have a model train display. Finally, Sandy reported that division election results are due in December and that they have managed to have at least 1 person to fill every division position.

Palmetto: Howard Garner is reporting for Ron Lown. Howard reported that Ron had sent a Division Report. He then noted that elections had been held with all officers getting re-elected. Howard stated that they are getting good turnout for their semi-annual division meetings; that the division remains active. Alan Mole offered congratulations to Palmetto for hosting a good convention.

Land o' Sky: Alan Mole reported that Ken O'Brien had skipped this meeting because of misplaced priorities (something about taking his wife on an Anniversary trip) but had sent a report. The report noted that the division modular group had participated in the Fletcher, NC show.

Steel City: John Stewart was not present at this meeting. Something about being sore from driving a bus that kept him from coming to this meeting. After some discussion all gathered concluded that John had sent a Steel City report although none present had it in hand.

Central Savannah River: Steve Prevette was not present. Glen Hall commented on the efforts by Steve to reorganize divisions. Glen reported that Steve of CSR and Carl Blum of Atlantic had met with the outcome that Atlantic does not want to merge with CSR or with Macon. So Steve has stated that CSR has ceased the effort to solve the division problem on their own.

Following the CSR section there was some discussion regarding poorly served areas of all divisions. Group consensus was that division organization is that would continue.

At this point VP, Alan Mole reported that this concludes the Superintendent's Reports.

Web Site and E-News Letter Report

Rick Coble was not present to discuss the Web Site and E-News Letter. Peter Youngblood had been in communi-

cation with Rick and brought up this concern. The concern is should the E-Newsletter and Southerner accept ads or place events on the calendar that are not NMRA events. There was much discussion with most present commenting. It was noted that the Southerner already accepts ads from hobby shops and other non NMRA ad purchasers. The Southerner is, itself, available online to non NMRA as well as NMRA members. A comment was made and accepted that it would be appropriate accept an item if it was of benefit to NMRA members. Consensus of the discussion was that many non-NMRA ads & events were fully appropriate for the Southerner but that the E-Newsletter staying with primarily NMRA events. For the later Rick Coble and Scott Povlot continue to use their judgment as to what is appropriate.

Membership Report:

In the absence of Membership Chairman Rick Coble, Glen Hall referred to Rick's submitted Membership Report and highlighted select items. He noted that 70 member letters were sent from June to October and that SER patches were included with the letter. Glen also noted that Rick working with Steve Prevette sent surveys to former members but that they had received no returns from those surveys. (The surveys were a part of the Strategic Plan.) Finally, Glen noted that the SER has 1216 members and that 639 of those get the printed Southerner.

Editor's Report

In the absence of Editor Paul Voelker, Glen skipped the Editor's Report.

Education Report:

Glen next goes to Peter Youngblood for the Education, AP, and BSA reports.

Peter references his published Education report and then discusses what he has learned from members who did not renew NMRA membership. He found one "interesting" reason; that being that these people reached a plateau in their hobby learning and do not see benefit to continuing membership. Further investigation Peter also found that the same people do enjoy hands on clinics. Many would consider re-joining if more such learning opportunities were to become available. An obvious challenge to the Education Department. Peter also noted that he was addressing these issues in his new role with NMRA National.

Peter next defers to Randall Watson for the Achievement Program Report. Randall report that since the June Greenville Convention we have 21 certificates awarded (2 were Gold Spikes). Of those certificates one was an MMR. (Randall also said there is another MMR that should be completed shortly after this meeting.) Randall then referred all to his detail AP report and followed with an appeal for everyone to push the AP program in their divisions.

Howard Goodwin reported on the Boy Scout Program. He opened by saying that Piedmont has a very active Boy Scout program that he believes could be cloned for use by smaller divisions. He then noted that John Stevens has come by a large number of boxcar kits. Howard believes these kits could be used as the core of a "make & take" session that would qualify the scouts for the Railroad Merit Badge. This should be easier to implement than Piedmonts current approach. Piedmont will do a trial of the make & take session with the boxcars and if it works well they will make it available of other divisions.

Good and Welfare

Glen Hall reported for Good & Welfare noting from the report that 70 letters had been sent out and of those letters 17 had been for birthdays of members greater than 75.

Honors and Awards:

Larry Smith spoke for Honors and Awards. He started by stating that there will be a Yarbrough for both this year and for next year. He then proceeded to describe the process for selecting the award winners. First the Awards Committee is made up of previous winners of the award. Second he noted that the Yarbrough Award is for service rendered to the hobby at the Region level and the Dave Muller Award is for service rendered to the hobby at the Division level. The Yarbrough award is selected sole by the members of the Awards Committee. For the Dave Muller award the Committee seeks input from Division officials and with that input the Committee then selects the Dave Muller award winner.

Glen Hall asked Larry to write a short article for the Southerner describing the Awards Process.

Old Business

Glen Hall noted that the meeting now moves to Old Business starting with convention updates.

Convention Updates

2016 Huntsville: Sandy Warrington first said he had paper copies of the convention slide show available. He also said he sent 100 brochures to Alan Mole and has many more available for distribution (brought some with him).

Then the bad news. It appears that the space at the convention hotel that had been counted of for the train show had been "somehow" been booked to others. So no train show space is available at the hotel. The convention committee is looking for another venue; they have some targets. But nothing committed to yet.

Sandy was able to announce that the Convention Speaker will be Stephen Priest.

Finally, Sandy announced that Larry Smith just agreed to do a make and take clinic to build a shotgun company house. This clinic was developed with Miles Hale (who is providing the kit) it involves several interesting techniques and runs 2 hours. The clinic will be limited to 30 people each of whom pay \$15 and have to bring specified tools. (Also note that one can view a U-Tube at the MR University web site under Marker House).

2017 Birmingham: Jason Parham provided a brief update for the 2017 clinic saying it was on track for the convention to be held at the Bessemer Convention center. He then, in his role as clinic chair, appealed for volunteers to do clinic. He appeared to be looking at Larry Smith for his Shotgun house clinic.

2018 Lake Junaluska: In Fred Coleman's absence Glen Hall reported that Land 'O Sky has offered to host the SER 2018 Convention on the Memorial Day Weekend at Lake Junaluska (Waynesville, NC). George Gilbert moved to accept Land 'O Sky's offer. Howard Garner seconded and the motion passed.

SER Support of Local Fund Raising Initiatives

Alan Mole reported that there were no Fund Raising Requests

Peter Youngblood asked if we can request funds to fund make & take clinics at conventions? Alan answered yes.

Larry Smith cited a case of a group that was using space in a church losing that space due to change is the church's use of the space. To the question could these funds be used to pay for space for activities. Alan said they could be.

To the question about how to request such funds, Glen said that a group requesting funds would submit a letter explaining what they wanted. That procedure remains in place.

Alan Mole said that he believed that funds for make & take clinics could be included in the convention funding. He then went on to move that SER support hands on (make & take) and provide funding for such clinics. Howard Garner seconded and the motion passed.

SER DVD Project Update

Glen Hall spoke for Bob Beaty (not preset) to relay that 3 have been produced and are now, almost ready for distribution. The almost part is because he does not have labels made for the DVD's. The 3 DVD's are

John Stewart's Intro to JMRI

Peter Youngblood's Basic Model Railroad Photography

John Stewart's longer program describing JMRI implementation on his large home railroad.

Howard Garner offered to prepare labels if that was all that was missing.

Randall Watson proposed a DVD for JRMI's Decoder Pro. But it was recalled that that was already approved in the approval for a JMRI CD package that were from a clinic John Stewart presented at the Cleveland National Convention.

As an aside Larry Smith reported on Bob Beaty's continued incidence of medical problems and Peter Youngblood extended Joe Gelmini's greetings and regret for not being at this meeting.

SER Car Project Update:

Randall Watson reports that SER has purchased 300 Accurail cars at a total cost (incl. Freight) of \$4105.22. We have sold 34 cars gaining revenue of \$716.00 leaving \$3389.22 left to break even. Glen commented that there was a long way to go and Randal replied that car sales are a slow process.

Mini-Meets:

Alan Mole reports that there is nothing new with mini-meets. So after this mini-meet at Crossville, TN we have scheduled the Mini-Meet at Aiken, SC for September 23, 2016 as discussed in the previous BOD meeting.

Strategic Plan Update:

Jason Parham reported, referring to the handout Draft 2 (11/5/15) of the SER NMRA Strategic plan as e-mailed by Bob Beaty. Jason noted the plan covered the major sections:

- Communication
- Education Programs
- Membership Skill Development
- Hobby Promotion within the Region
- Membership Growth
- Fiscal Responsibility

Jason said there could be an argument for combining Education and Membership skills but he sees enough differences to keep them separate. Likewise, Hobby Promotion and Membership growth could be combined; but his opinion is that Hobby Promotion needs to come first and that successful Promotion becomes the tool to gain Hobby Members. On the format of the handout, Jason noted that black ink was committee language in the report while blue ink showed various BOD member input to the report.

Peter Youngblood commented generally about strategic plans (at whatever level or organization). He said the difficulty implementing plans was in having people tasked to accomplish the various items in the plan. Without tasking individuals and setting deadlines the strategic plan becomes a document of "wishful thinking".

Glen Hall asked about the Interactive Calendar discussed under communications. His question just what is an Interactive Calendar. Who gets to make inputs; just BOD or all members? Ensuing discussion could not define the calendar so it was decided to delete that calendar from the plan.

Alan Mole was asked what input he received from circulating the plan. Alan reported that the typical response was something like "looks good to be, go with it".

Glen then stated that everything he has asked to be done has been completed. Then Peter Youngblood asked Glen where we going next with this Strategic Plan. Glen replied that we need to incorporate the blue comments into the document make stated goals realistic (i.e. increase AP participation by 20%, probably not realistic). Then the question was asked that in place of specific goals could goals as long/medium/short range?

Glen concluded the discussion by asking members take the plan, read it, and see if they have any additional comments. Comments should be sent to Bob Beaty and/or Jason Parham. Finally, Glen said he wanted a new draft presented at the January 2016 BOD meeting.

SER Shirts / Clothing:

Sally Bando reported that there is now an embroidered SER shirt available.

New Pike Ad Manager:

There was nothing to report concerning a new Pike Ad Manager, so Glen Hall tabled this item.

Division Membership Table Banners:

Sandy Warrington reported that he had hoped to have a banner to display but it is not yet ready. He also said he was looking for pictures of people engaged in model railroading activities. Sandy has plenty of pictures of people running trains, he needs photos of people doing other hobby activities. He mentioned that he had one very nice photo of a young lady running trains and the we have permission to use this photo in Div/SER/NMRA publications. It was asked if we had a formal model release to allow us to use pictures of this lady. Apparently we do not have the release but we know how to get one so that will be done. Still need photos of people building stuff, not just running trains.

Larry Burkholder mentioned that the Knoxville Club runs a summer MR junior camp. He has pictures from this camp of young modelers working with kits and could make these available to Sandy for the banner.

Sandy closed by saying that he hopes to have a banner to display in January.

New Business.

Glen Hall introduced the New Business section of the meeting with a topic Peter Youngblood asked to present.

Matters of Relevance to Regions and Divisions as discussed at the NMRA National BOD:

Peter Youngblood reported that the NMRA BOD had lengthy discussions concerning requirement and retention of members. Peter said that the national BOD had high praise for the work in this area done by two Regions, SER and LSR (secretary comment: note both are Southerners). Peter noted that he showed a PowerPoint presentation highlighting some of the ideas SER had used that have been successful. And, typically, as he completed he found himself appointed to the requirement and committee. Also there is an article in the current NMRA magazine that is essentially this PP presentation.

Next Peter discussed the idea that leadership is currently enjoining that NMRA should limit non-NMRA member participation in NMRA activities. It is knowing that there are groups within NMRA that currently allow non-member participation. This falls under the discussion of the NMRA providing members value for their money and not giving it away to people that do not want to pay dues. The idea being pushed is that we allow a non-member 3 visits then he joins or doesn't come back. Peter says this may or may not be a fine idea, but how do you enforce it? In a large division, like Piedmont, you will not know some of the members showing up so how can you pick out non-members?

To be encouraging Peter says that there is work being done on requirement and retention that looks to be helpful. Peter then discussed EduTrain. Peter does not like the direction or activities being undertaken under the EduTrain banner; and has loudly said so. As a consequence, he has found himself added to some EduTrain committees.

Clinic CD Library and Librarian

At the last BOD Glen Hall stated that he had received 99 CD's from National. These CD's were clinics from past National Conventions. At that last BOD meeting there was a discussion about what to do with these CD's. What has happened since is that Tom Shallcross expressed an interest in the CD's so they were transferred to Tom. Tom will review the CD collection to see what can be done. The CD's will eventually be returned to Region custody.

Proposed 2016 Budget:

Prior to this meeting Sally Bando had circulated a detail of the proposed 2016 Region Budget.

Sally stated she had reduced the NMRA region rebate income to reflect reality. She then noted she had reduced the budget for division support but wonders if that should be reversed to support some of the ideas already discussed in this meeting. Alan Mole said that he thought the Division Support was the budget balance number and could be changed as needed to balance the budget. Actually we used very little of the Division Support budget.

Sally stated the SER Region car sales budget numbers were a best guess.

Larry Smith noted the budget detail showed an expense for a 2015 Muller award. It was listed under Education and should really be under Awards. Also mentioned were 2 awards charged to the president's fund; one was a president's award and one a 50-year plaque. The president's award can go to the president's funds but the 50-year plaque should be in another category under awards. After some discussion it was agreed to put the President's award in the President's budget, the Contest awards in the Education Budget, and other awards in the Awards budget.

It was next asked if Buddy Black had delivered the contest plaques for the Greenville Convention awards. There was confusion about whether the plaques were done or not. Glen promised to investigate.

Alan Mole moved to accept the proposed 2016 budget; Sandy Warrington seconded. The motion was passed.

Electronic Ballots:

Glen Hall introduced the topic of Electronic Balloting by first noting that SER has an upcoming election this spring with all officers and 2 director's positions up. He then turns this topic over to Alan Mole.

Alan noted he had circulated his report on electronic voting. This report covers a brief summary of trials of voting software that resulted in a decision to select ElectionBuddy.com. It discusses the features of the software and the cost. It then discusses steps SER needs to do to prepare to use electronic voting. The report completes with 6 recommended Actions.

Alan talked about his experience testing the software packages and his recommendation of Election Buddy. He discussed how he was able to run 2 test elections and was able to show a graph report of the results.

Alan then talks about an election will be conducted using ElectionBuddy. This process must be preceded by selection of an Election Administrator who is the individual that manages the software throughout the procedure. SER currently has two positions a Nominating Chairman and an Election Chairman. The Election Chair would probably be the best choice to assume the Election Administrator roll. With that settled Alan talks through the process of conduction the election from the point of adding the candidates to the ballot, starting the election by initiating distribution of e-mail to all voting members, collecting the results and completing the election. (We will need to make the start coincide with release of manual voting in the Southerner. The end of the electronic election should also coincide with the Southerner published end of the election.)

Alan states that we need to start doing whatever is needed to be sure we have a solid e-mail list for all our members. We also need to decide how we get ballots to the few (we hope) non-emailing members.

Alan proposed using the Southerner to send members notice that they will be getting voting information from ElectionBuddy and how to set up their e-mail to not route that mail to spam. This would also instruct members how to get corrected e-mail to SER if needed. Alan also suggested that some (president of Election Administrator) send out an e-mail under their own accounts telling members to expect ElectionBuddy communication. Presumably people's spam filters will not divert these mails.

Howard Garner brought up that we should use the NMRA national roster as our official e-mail source. The ensuing discussion revealed that the NMRA roster was known to have errors in e-mail addresses. The discussion turned to the question was it best to request members to check and correct their e-mail on the NMRA roster or should Divisions collect corrected for their members and send these in group to National. Consensus favored the later. Consensus also favored using the NMRA roster as the official list if we can get its e-mail listing correct.

Next Alan said we would have to send paper ballots in the Southerner for use by non-email members. The Election Administrator would have responsibility for receiving the paper ballots and crosschecking against the electron balloting to insure no duplicate voting occurs.

Following this discussion Alan Mole proposed that SER conduct electronic voting using ElectionBuddy.com for the 2016 SER BOD election. And that the SER budget the \$99.00 required by ElectionBuddy.. Peter Youngblood seconded the motion and Glen Hall put it to vote.

Peter Youngblood brought up that the NMRA roster comes to us with about a 30-day delay. This may mean we have new eligible voting members who are not yet on the roster SER holds. We may also have delinquent members still on the roster SER holds. Does this mean that with electronic balloting, we may not accept eligible voters or may allow delinquent members to vote? After some discussion we realized we have exactly the same problem with paper ballots because we use the same roster to check paper voter ballot eligibility. So this means we just have to be very careful to watch members who join or leave during our election time period.

Glen calls the vote and the motion carries.

Glen not states that Bob Beaty is the Nominating Chairman. Bio's and Photos of those wishing to run should be sent to Bob. Bob is to have the list of candidates to Glen for presentation at the January BOD.

Alan Mole recommends to Glen that Rick Coble be appointed as Election Administrator. Glen so appoints Rick. Rick will handle both Electronic and Paper balloting.

Alan's Electronic voting proposal will be included as an appendage to this minutes.

Alan proceeds to discuss the actions he had recommended that need to occur to prepare for and to conduct electronic voting this spring. See the Actions section in the Appendix for Alan's list of recommendations.

As closing to this subject Glen reported that the NER has been using electronic voting for 2 years and had found response to be very good. Glen also announced that he is not running for reelection as president. This is expected to be great news to Bob Beaty since it will finally allow him to quit being Executive Director.

Items from BOD and/or Membership at Large

At this point President Glen Hall asked if there was any New Business from either the BOD or the Membership. He received no response from either party so that concluded New Business.

Next Meeting:

Glen Hall announced that the next board meeting would be held at Savannah, GA for a BOD meeting on the morning of January

23, 2016. Recommend everyone arrive by Friday January 22 for dinner and activities in Savannah. The selected hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn, Midtown at a rate of \$99.00. Note there is a 12/23 cutoff date for the rate.

Adjourn;

Glen suggested he would accept a motion to adjourn. Alan Mole so moved and George Gilbert seconded. The motion passed, the meeting adjourned at 11:40am.

Appendix I Vice President Report on Electronic Voting

SER/NMRA Board of Director meeting
November 7, 2015

Electronic Voting proposal

Over the past year or so, I have been looking into electronic voting software with the view to integrating the option into our bi-annual Board elections, with the next coming up in Spring 2016.

Initially, and at the recommendation of the World Bank 1818 Society, I was looking at instant.ly and carried out a number of tests with this software in the Piedmont Division. While working satisfactorily, there were issues with setting up the list of eligible voters (email addresses) and including safeguards to ensure against multiple votes. Subsequently, I discovered that the 1818 Society had encountered similar problems and had decided to go with electionbuddy.com which I used for two tests over the past two months.

I was very pleased with the results of the tests. I had asked a couple of you to try to submit duplicate entries and found that you were unable to do so, because in addition to the email on record that I entered for the target group, I had to assign a "voter authentication" number. For the test I used #s 1 – 12 for the 12 participants, but for the actual vote, if adopted, we could use each voter's NMRA number, available from the SER Roster.

There are a number additional features that make this software attractive and easy to use:

The Board would appoint an Election Administrator (EA) who in turn would have sole control over the election process and information during the election period.

The EA would be responsible for setting up the Ballot with candidates for each position.

In the case of single candidate for a position, the ballot would give a YES or NO option.

"Write-in candidate" and/or "Abstain" options may also be included.

A specific timeframe would be establishing for voting; i.e. beginning and ending dates.

During the voting period only the EA would have access to voting information.

Once the election closes, the EA will be able to print out the election results which will show results in graphic and numeric formats.

In addition, the EA will be able to view (and produce reports, if necessary) of who voted, as well as details of each ballot, but NOT both together. That is, system will not produce information on how individuals voted.

This latter point is important as GA law requires ballot information to be available in case of a recount.

So far so good. There is a \$99 cost per election but I would suggest that the improved election process and potential increase in participation is well worth the cost.

Now to the non-email addresses who would still have to submit paper ballots.

First of all, I would recommend that, in the next Southerner and Rick's regular email bulletin, we request members provide any new email addresses and/or updates to existing addresses so that we can update the SER roster to maximize use of the software and reduce the

voter tabulation from paper ballots.

Paper ballots would be provided in the Spring 2016 edition of the Southerner. All such ballots would be sent to the EA for review and checked against the list of voters under the electronic vote procedure. Duplicate ballots would be discarded.

For future elections, that is beyond 2016, I recommend that paper ballots be eliminated in the Southerner by making them available for download on the SER website. This should also reduce the cost of the Southerner, albeit modestly.

Actions

Request approval use of Electronic Voting for upcoming Board election – SER Board

Appoint Election Administrator and Nominating Committee (note: recommend separation of duties) – SER Board

Include articles in Winter 2105 Southerner and monthly “Around the NMRA and the Southeastern Region” email bulletins advising new election process and requesting email double check!

Send second request to all members with emails, requesting confirmation that they will accept the “Electionbuddy.com” email, i.e. remove email constraints, check spam.

Include new voting instructions/options in Spring 2016 Southerner and email bulletins.

Open electronic voting on same date as Southerner is mailed and close on the same deadline for receipt of paper ballots.

Alan Mole
October 29, 2015

Appendix II Article to be placed in Southerner re: Electronic voting Article for Southerner – Winter Issue

ELECTRONIC VOTING

By Alan Mole, VP, SER/NMRA

At the November 7, 2015 SER Board of Directors meeting in Crossville, TN, the Board reviewed and approved a proposal to introduce electronic voting for future Board elections beginning in 2016.

Background:

During discussions about existing election procedures at the 2014 SER Convention in Memphis, TN, a member suggested the introduction of electronic voting using members’ email addresses. Following that meeting Bob Beaty, Buddy Black and I were asked to look into software options that we could use to make our elections more efficient and easy to use.

Since then we have looked into available electronic voting software with the view to integrating the option into our bi-annual Board elections. Initially, and at the recommendation of the World Bank 1818 Society, I looked at [instant.ly](#) and carried out a number of tests with this software in the Piedmont Division. While working satisfactorily, there were issues with setting up the list of eligible voters (email addresses) and including safeguards to ensure against multiple votes. Subsequently, I discovered that the 1818 Society had encountered similar problems and had decided to go with [electionbuddy.com](#). Since the summer I have conducted two tests with the SER Board and have been very satisfied with the results and that the system protects the integrity of the process, i.e. no duplicate entries, as well as providing privacy of the individual voter and ballot information, that is, no one can see [how](#) a member voted.

Actions taken:

Glen Hall, SER President, has appointed Rick Coble as the Election Administrator (EA) who in turn would have sole control over the election process and information during the election period.

Bob Beaty has been appointed Nominating Committee chairman.

New Procedures:

The EA will be responsible for setting up the Ballot with the slate of candidates for each position as provided by the Nominating Committee. Candidate bios would be provided in the Southerner – Spring 2016 edition.

In the case of single candidate for a position, the ballot would give a YES or NO option.

“Write-in candidate” and/or “Abstain” options may also be included.

A specific timeframe would be establishing for voting; i.e. beginning and ending dates.

During the voting period only the EA would have access to voting information. The system provides a feature that allows the EA to review the status of voting and follow up with those who have not submitted a vote.

Once the election closes, the EA will be able to print out the election results which will show results in graphic and numeric formats.

In addition, the EA will be able to view (and produce reports, if necessary) of who voted, as well as details of each ballot, but NOT both together. This latter point is important as GA law requires ballot information to be available in case of a recount.

Next steps

Since the system relies on up-to-date email information, the EA will be soliciting member confirmation of email addresses on file (NMRA/SER Roster) and /or updates to existing addresses so that we can update the SER roster to maximize use of the software and reduce the ballot tabulation from paper ballots. Prior to the beginning date for the election, the EA will send out a reminder informing members that they will receive an email inviting a vote from electionbuddy.com. At that time, you will be asked to take off any email block or spam control for this addressee. Electronic voting will begin on the same date as the Southerner is mailed and close on the same deadline for receipt of paper ballots.

For those who either do not use email or wish to receive a paper ballot, paper ballots will be provided in the Spring 2016 edition of the Southerner as well as on the website for download. All such ballots would be sent to the EA for review and checked against the list of voters under the electronic vote procedure. Duplicate ballots will be discarded.

Voting instructions on how to use electionbuddy.com will be available on the SER website. Regular updates may be included in the “Around the NMRA and the Southeastern Region” email bulletins.

Alan Mole
November 8, 2015

Appendix III Article on Electronic voting for E-Newsletter Article for Email Bulletin “Around the NMRA and the Southeastern Region”

ELECTRONIC VOTING

By Alan Mole, VP, SER/NMRA

At the November 7, 2015 SER Board of Directors meeting in Crossville, TN, the Board reviewed and approved a proposal to introduce electronic voting for future Board elections beginning in 2016.

Glen Hall, MMR, SER President, has appointed Rick Coble as the Election Administrator (EA) who will have sole control over the electronic process and information during the election period.

Since the system relies on up-to-date email information, the EA will be soliciting member confirmation of email addresses on file (NMRA/SER Roster) and /or updates to existing addresses so that we can update the SER roster to maximize use of the software and reduce the ballot tabulation from paper ballots. Prior to the beginning date for the election, the EA will send out a reminder informing members that they will receive an email inviting a vote from electionbuddy.com. At that time, you will be asked to take off any email block or spam control for this addressee. Electronic voting will begin on the same date as the Southerner is mailed and close on the same deadline for receipt of paper ballots.

For those who either do not use email or wish to receive a paper ballot, paper ballots will be provided in the Spring 2016 edition of the Southerner as well as on the website for download.

A more detailed explanation of the introduction of electronic voting will be included in the upcoming Southerner. Also instructions on how to use electionbuddy.com will be available on the SER website. Regular updates may be included in the email bulletins.

Alan Mole
November 9, 2015