



The President's Car Roy Masterson

rwmasterson@epbfi.com

Here we are in 2023 and I'm happy to report that SER convention planning is well underway, and a high probability

of an SER Mini Meet next year as well.

Here is the SER Annual Convention lineup we have so far:

- 2023 Piedmont Division Cartersville Express
- 2024 Mid South Division in Decatur, Al
- 2025 Smoky Mountain Division
- 2026 Carolina Mountain Division

Starting with 2024, our Annual Conventions will back to May/June time frames which leaves Fall as the perfect time to hold a Mini Meet. The Carolina Mountain Division is planning on holding a Mini Meet sometime in November 2024.

Mini Meets promoted by the SER and held around the Region are a great way for those Divisions that haven't held conventions or SER-wide activities to share our hobby with members around the SER. As with conventions, the SER leadership will help with venues and work with local members to create a fun time for our members. The SER will provide funding for facilities and the event gives the local Division an opportunity to raise funds by charging admission. If your division would be willing to host a convention or a mini meet contact Larry Burkholder, MMR. Larry's contact information can be found on the SER Officials web page.

Normally we give out awards at our annual conventions to members who have stepped up to support our great hobby. Last year Randall Watson sold the last of the Region cars that we have had on hand for many years. Our thanks to Randall for seeing this project through from the beginning. I will be presenting him with the following Certificate of Appreciation at our Winter Board meeting in Cartersville.



SER members should have received an email on January 23 from NMRA President Gordy Robinson, MMR announc-

ing the launch of the NMRA's free Interchange online meeting place. The NMRA Interchange uses the Discord platform, which is available through a web browser like Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome. You can also download the Discord desktop application or the Discord mobile app for your smartphone and/or tablet. The software works on iOS, MacOS, Windows, Linux and Android.

The NMRA Interchange will connect you with members from across the NMRA using voice and text chat without the need to use Zoom. The Hangout rooms are available for video conversations anytime without the need to pre-schedule. Each Region and Division also has its own space where only local members can see what is posted. It is a great place to promote local events, meetings, train shows and even op sessions. Each SIG (Special Interest Group, as listed on nmra.org) has its own place to announce events and answer questions from NMRA members. In addition, you can have your own channel for your layout or share your model railroading journey. Events will be promoted at the very top of the menu and training sessions for Division members who organize meetings to show you how to create and promote events. On the NMRA Website, information and registration instructions are at: www.nmra.org/nmra-interchange.

I encourage all members to take advantage of this new feature the NMRA is offering to members. I have asked Peter Thomas to be the SER's Interchange Discord Coordinator and he will help guide you in getting access to Discord. Peter's contact information can be found on the SER Officials web page.

Did you know the NMRA will reimburse up to \$200 yearly for divisions holding member retention events? It can be anything from hands-on clinics, a division picnic, tours of a railroad facility, etc. that will help members understand what's great about the NMRA. On the NMRA website under Regions and Divisions click on the Division Matching tab and download the application form.

To receive the matching funds the following steps will need to be completed:

- 1. Complete steps 1-5 and submit the form to the At-Large North American Director (alnadir@nmra. org) for approval.
- The ALNA Director will review, approve, and return the approved form to the Division, and send a copy to HQ.
- 3. Once the event is completed, the Division will forward copies of the approved form and the required receipts to HQ (nmrahq@nmra.org or by mail).
- 4. HQ will send a check to the Division Treasurer for half the event cost or \$200 USD, whichever is less. Reimbursement will be made by NMRA HQ once all requirements are met.

Don't forget to register for the 2023 Piedmont Division Cartersville Express that will be held in Cartersville, GA, September 14-17, 2023. See you there! **SER**



Volume 64 Number 2 WAYBILL	Spring 2023
Achievement Program	4
Club Car	22
Education Department	6
Moving a Model Railroad	
New Tracks Modeling Mentoring Scholarships	
Possible Subscription Price Increase	4
The President's Car	2
SER Division News	18
SER Division Officers/Directors/Divisions	23
Social Media and Model Railroading	10
What Year is This	
When Will Election Voting Open	4

Editor: Ed Juaire - 782 Jays Way, Ringgold GA 30736-8954 423-598-9925; SouthErneR@ejpj.com.

Material for publication is welcomed! Please send materials to the editor. All submissions become the property of *The SouthErneR* unless otherwise contracted. Do not send previously published materials please!

The SouthErneR is mailed to members of the Southeastern Region and interested parties who have paid the subscription rate of \$10.00/year.

Issue Deadlines: Summer-May 15; Fall-Aug 15; Winter-Nov 15; Spring-Feb 15

ADVERTISING

Rates are for electronic-format or scanner-ready ads. Preferred formats are PDF, MS Word or JPG.

Contact editor regarding other formats.

Include advertiser name, address, email and daytime phone number.

Ads must be prepaid prior to publication.

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ADVERTISING RATES				
	Number of Issues			
Size	1	2	3	4
Full	\$120	\$240	\$360	\$400
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1/4 h/v	\$ 30	\$ 60	\$ 90	\$100
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2023 Election. When will voting open?

Voting opens with the delivery of the summer edition of *The SouthErneR*. Online voting opens in mid-August.

This year members may vote for the positions of President, Treasurer, and Director (two seats). Additional information will be sent in an eBlast and available on the region website and the NMRA Interchange.

Possible SouthErneR Subscription Fee Price Increase

by John Stevens – SER Director

The SER bylaws state "The "SouthErneR" shall be published and distributed no less than four (4) times nor more than six (6) times annually." For many years, the subscription fee for the SouthErneR has been \$10 per year which was sufficient to cover the cost of providing subscribers a printed copy. In 2022, it costs the region more than \$15 per copy to deliver the 32-page printed SouthErneR.

The SER cannot continue to provide the minimum of four issues per year of the printed <code>SouthErneR</code> at the \$10 per year rate. The SER is one of only six regions that provide a printed copy of their publication. Other regions have gone to online versions. Some divisions support downloadable PDF files while some are more advanced, nearing the quality which NMRA is providing with their online version of the NMRA Magazine. At some point, the SER will most likely go to an online only version of the publication, but for now we plan to provide a printed version - if we can increase the subscription fee to cover the printing costs.

Personally, I have a difficult time reading online magazines especially on my cellphone. I really like to receive the

hard copy of the *SouthErneR*. As a Director of the SER, I feel we should be asking subscribers to determine what they want. Please respond to either of the questions below.

Please forward your reply to me by July 15. You can respond by email, snevets4@bellsouth.net, USPS mail to John Stevens, 175 Roscommon Ct, Tyrone GA 30290, or by phone by either calling or texting me at 678-873-3770. Like many of you, I am dealing with health care issues of my 91-year old mother which may delay my response back to you. For phone or email, I will attempt to get back to you within three (3) days. I will not be responding back to those who respond by USPS mail.

Question

The current *SouthErneR* cost is over \$15 to provide a paper 32-page publication four (4) times per year. The Board of Directors is considering increasing the subscription fee to \$18 per year for a 32-page newsletter. Are you willing to pay \$18 per year for the *SouthErneR*, or will you allow your subscription to expire?

- 1) I will continue to subscribe to the SouthErneR at an \$18 per year subscription fee.
- 2) I will NOT continue to subscribe to the SouthErneR if the subscription fee increases above the current \$10 per year.

Achievement Program

New Awards in Our Southeastern Region This Quarter



Carolina Mountain (15)

Association Volunteer Certificate Paul Spilman



Piedmont (5)

Golden Spike Award John Stevens



Master Builder Structures Certificate Wayman Humphrey



Plateau (16)

Golden Spike Award Jan Novack

Division AP Chairmen for Divisions which have them

Bluff City (10)

Greg Scharfetter; Gascharfetter@bellsouth.net; 901-219-4219

Carolina Mountain (15)

Ben Bartlett, MMR; b3j2c@yahoo.com; 818-883-2799

Cherokee (13)

Dale Bryant; livewire@fbright.com; 423-991-5243

Cumberland (11)

George Gilbert, MMR; grgilbert@comcast.net; 615-352-1254

Gulf (4)

Peter Banks MMR; pbnyc@bellsouth.net; 850-890-0987

Magnolia (14)

Troy Hight; troyhight69@icloud.com; 601-416-7617

Mid South (1)

Sandy William Warrington; wearrington@msm.com; 256-617-8098

Palmetto (7)

Howard Garner MMR; cascaderail@bellsouth.net; 864-878-4705

Piedmont (5)

Charles Mason MMR; candimason@att.net; 770-993-1589

Plateau (16)

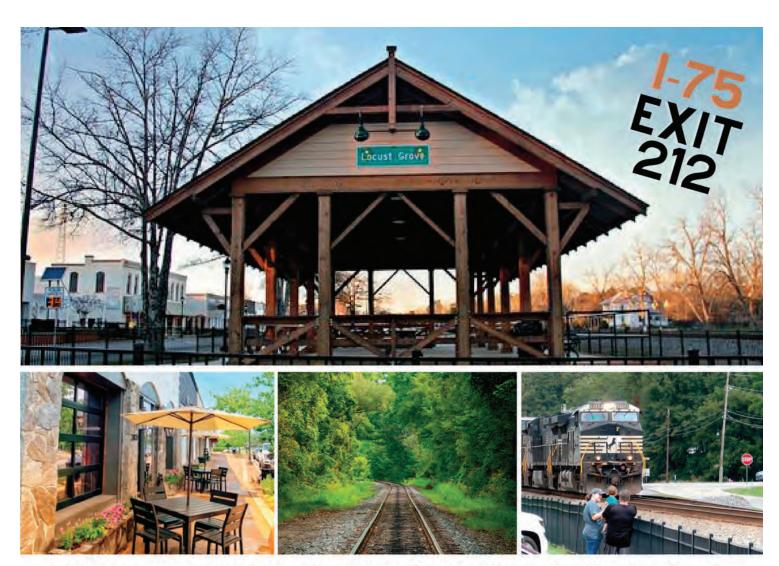
Richard Morris: rmorris52@twlakes.net: 931-864-3909

Smokey Mountain (12)

Larry Burkholder, labtexan@chartertn.net; 865-408-9903

Steel City (2)

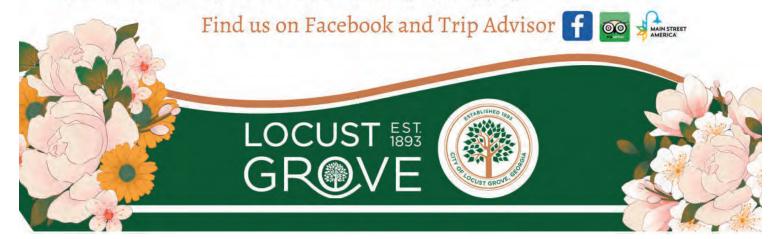
Tom Schultz; svrr@charter.net; 205-879-3603



Visit Locust Grove's Train Watching Platform for an up close and exciting view of the 35+ trains that roar by daily on the historic Atlanta South District line.

The covered pavilion has picnic tables and several benches with a lot of open space, scanner feed from Norfolk Southern's train radio, nighttime lighting, and ample free parking. When you get hungry, cross the street and visit one of our unique restaurants, all with great views of the track!

Check out www.visitlocustgrove.com for more railfan information and train viewing platform amenities, as well as ideas on dining and shopping.





Education Chuck Higdon

vze5crrw1@outlook.com

I hope this issue of *The SouthErneR* finds your family and you well and virus free. Also hope your division is

doing something.

In the last issue I mentioned how small local coal yards unloaded their coal from hoppers. I recently learned that coal was also put into box cars. This link is posted on the "Lackawanna" Facebook page: https://digital.hagley.org/80318_085?fbclid=IwAR2uEqImLieWGrEzCR--g4rH-CJ_EXxkJ-MWbpAOJgdN4ouFRFhhpqeq6k1I#mod-al-close.

It is from the *Hagley Digital Archives* in the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company Photographs section titled "The Box Car Loader." Rob Davis mentioned "I was reading Pete Brill's *Bloomsburg Branch* book last night and was struck by a stat: about 20% of the coal leaving the Kingston, PA area in the early 1900's was loaded in boxcars."

Rob posted in my comment "I have read at least four different reasons for boxcar loading: Kept the coal dry; provided more secure transport; good for less than hopper-full" loads and was able to be unloaded without a coal trestle. Boxcar loaders rocked the car end to end to distribute the coal. The most common method of keeping it in the car were boards fixed across the door openings." Like paper lining boxcars for flour or grain shipments.

Have you ever wanted to run some piping on the ground but weren't sure how to fasten it. I have the Walthers Propane 2 large tanks with transfer stand for railcars and small office building. I took a plastic "For Sale" or any of



the other of the 14" by 18" signs most home improvement stores sell. Cut it to fit the space. Then in this example the pipe and tank supports were glued to the sheet.

The small pump houses and the transfer stand were also glued to the sheet. Then using white glue, the scenery material was applied.

That took a few passes to get it to where I wanted it. After the scenery was done the piping and large tanks were added to

complete the scene. The piece can be slid on or off the layout as needed. When I moved, it went into a box on top of smaller boxes and popcorn to keep it from moving around. Survived that trip and is on the layout.

If you have a topic that I may be able to help with. Or if you have a clinic you want to present to the Region. Please let me know. We can set up a webinar to show it. You should have received the email about our new Discord system for meetings and other communication applications. I have logged in, created a page for my layout. I can help you with that now. I am also looking for topics and presenters for more Webinars, please let me know at vze5crrw1@outlook.com if you would like to present one or know someone that would.

Enjoy life and take care. **SER**















What Year Is This???? by Doug Scott

Atlantic Division

photos by Doug

Albany & Eastern Railroad, Lebanon, Oregon A Prototype you can model

There is a section of the Albany & Eastern, a regional short line south of Portland, Oregon, that can be dated to the latelate 1950s or earlier which could enhance any steam to diesel transition era layout.

Total 2 ton Stake body stake and also arranged for memb of the local Antique & Class car club to bring in other period cars.

Aside from the cars, the star of the show was former Santa

West Olive Street in Lebanon has all the markings of a post-World War II / Korean War time frame of small homes in an older neighborhood with active railroad tracks running right down the middle. Add some period classic or antique autos and you have a perfect scene, especially if you run trains down the track as this is an active line.

Small steam or first or second-generation diesels and period fright cars complete the time capsule. I participated in a LERRO PRODUCTIONS railroad photo charter this last October and one of the locations is here on West Olive Street.

The railroad owns the street – several blocks where the tracks run down the middle – so they arranged for the current residents to remove as much modernization as possible and all current and recent style automobiles were in garages or parked on side streets.

Everyone cooperated as best they could. The owner of the railroad brought in his 1946 Ford 2-ton stake body truck and also arranged for members of the local Antique & Classic car club to bring in other period cars.

Aside from the cars, the star of the show was former Santa Maria Valley X-205, a 2-6-2 1924 Baldwin built steam locomotive, recently restored. We were treated to several hours of run-bys where we could move around and capture as much of the feel of an earlier time along the road. We were also treated to a cameo appearance by their classic EMD SD9 #5399, ex-Santa Fe, built in 2/1955.







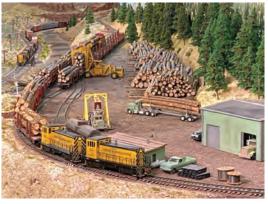
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RAIL TOURS GENERAL INTERES'

Texo Grain Mill George W Bush Library **Private Railcars Fort Worth Stockyards Grapevine Wine Tour** TexRail Back Shop Texas State Railroad Sixth Floor Museum **Trinity Rail Car Plant** Fort Worth Modern **BNSF Intermodal Yard Holocost Museum** Six Flags Railroad Shop Kimbell Museum **Grapevine Vintage Railroad** Globe Life Park **McKinney Ave Trolley Shops** AT&T Stadium Trinity Tank Car Cleaning Plant **Dealey Plaza BNSF National Operations Center** Museum of the American Railroad **BNSF Private Western Art Collection** T&P, Santa Fe, & Dallas Union Stations Fort Worth & Western Railroad Back Shop **Union Pacific Dallas International Terminal Light Rail & Commuter Shops (DART & TRE)**

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Social Media and Model Railroading

by Andy Zimmerman - NMRA Standards & Conformance Department Manager

Editor's Note: Written by Andy, it was with reference to the Sunshine Region (SSR). How many Regions does this also apply to?

Given the average age of the Model Railroading community at large, I think it is safe to say we grew up playing outside, riding bikes, hunting, fishing, or just hanging out with our friends. If we were inside, we were running trains or playing board games. None of us knew what social media was. Our friends were few when you contrast your Facebook friends, and they were close. It was all based on an interpersonal relationship.

When we needed information, we turned to the all-know-

ing all powerful Britannica encyclopedia that we either had in our homes or at the public library. We purchased magazines like Model Railroader to bring us up to speed on the latest innovations and track



plans and to learn "how to." We joined clubs and learned from one another as we built layouts in our basement or spare room.

Fast forward to today, and our youth couldn't be more diametrically opposed. They are inside playing video games,



surfing the internet, texting their friends, and posting on social media. Like it or not, social media is as much a part of our society's daily life as the newspaper was to our fathers and grandfathers. It is where we interact with our friends and like-minded individuals, and we

learn from one another through Facebook posts, Tweets, and Reddit blogs and YouTube videos.

Model railroaders like me and those I associate with want to see the hobby thrive and grow. But how do we do that? Ever heard the old adage "Adapt or die?" The Pandemic forced us all to isolate ourselves, stay inside and look for methodologies to share our love of the hobby. It came in the form of YouTube videos, Facebook posts, Tweets on Twitter, and reading on Reddit. We had to adapt, but we were in unfamiliar territory.

We found ourselves asking what is a "hashtag," then learning it was the pound sign "#" and why do I use the @ sign again, only to have our grandkids chime in and tell us why. This is where the younger generations live, get their news, talk to friends and share information about the things they are passionate about. In fact, some 84% of adults ages 18 to 29 say they have used social media sites, which is compared to the share of those ages 30 to 49

(81%). By comparison, a somewhat smaller share of those ages 50 to 64 (73%) say they use social media sites, while

fewer than half of those 65 and older (45%) report using social media. Model Railroading enthusiasts are primarily represented by the 65 and older (45%) statistic, although that is improving. So how do we attract a younger group and



keep our base informed and engaged? We must engage them where they live.

Which social media platforms are most common?

YouTube and Facebook are the most widely used online platforms and their user base is most broadly representa-

tive of the population, as a whole Smaller shares of Americans use sites such as Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram, and LinkedIn. Among U.S. adults who use



Facebook, seven in ten say they visit the site daily, including around half (49%) who do so several times a day. By comparison, 59% of both Snapchat and Instagram users, say they visit these platforms at least daily, as do 54% of YouTube users and 46% of Twitter users.

Overall, keeping in mind there is crossover and multiple use, 69% use Facebook and 40% use Instagram. Breaking it down the statistics haven't varied much over the past few years. Roughly the adult landscape looks like this:

- 18-29: 70% use Facebook 71% use Instagram
- **30-49: 77**% use Facebook **48**% use Instagram
- 50-64: 73% use Facebook 29% use Instagram

• 65+ 50% use Facebook - 13% use Instagram

Today around seven-in-ten Americans use social media to connect with one another, engage with news content, share information, and entertain themselves.

NMRA's SSR is always working to increase membership. One way to do that is to reach out to young people who may be just entering – or are considering entering – the model railroading hobby.



In today's electronic world, social media is an important means of getting the NMRA SSR mes-

sage to these potential members. The SSR is represented on just one social media platform. We need to be working on expanding our presence on others. That said, let's talk about those media platforms, their nuances and their basic roles in the social media scene.



Facebook is certainly the most prolific of the social media giants as you just read. It is a social networking website where

users can post comments, share photographs, and post links to news or other interesting content on the web. chat live, and watch short-form video.

Shared content can be made publicly accessible, or it can be shared only among a select group of friends or family or with a single person. NMRA SSR has a Facebook presence here: Facebook-www.facebook.com/sunshinenmra.



Twitter is an online news and social networking site where people communicate in short messages called tweets. Tweeting is posting short messages

for anyone who follows you on Twitter, with the hope that your words are useful and interesting to someone in your audience. Another description of Twitter and tweeting might be microblogging.

Some people use Twitter to discover interesting people, companies, or organizations like NMRA SSR, online, opting to follow their tweets. NMRA SSR has a Twitter presence here: SSR – has a no presence here.

What is the difference between **Facebook and Twitter?**

Facebook is a multi-purpose social networking platform, allowing users to chat, post photos and notes, and play games; Twitter is all about staying informed and updated. It is built around the posting of short 280-character messages or "tweets." If you are a verbose person like me, Tweeting can be a challenge.

Similar to Facebook or Twitter, everyone who creates an

Instagram account has a profile and a news feed. Instagram is like a simplified version of Facebook with an emphasis on mobile use and visual sharing.



On Instagram, the main intention is to share and find the best photos and videos and like other social networks, you interact with other users by following them, letting others follow you, commenting, liking, tagging, and private messaging. You can also save photos you see on Instagram. NMRA SSR has an Instagram presence here: SSR has a no presence here.



Reddit is basically a large reddit group of forums (Subreddits) in which registered users can talk about almost

anything you can imagine, from news, to pop culture, to technology, to comics, to film, to literature, to the weirdest things in the world, and yes even Model Railroading! Be careful though, because even though there is some great content it can include some very NSFW (Not Safe for Work) stuff. Just know there is a community dedicated to just about every single hobby, interest, fandom, and general aspect of daily life. NMRA SSR has a Reddit Presence here: SSR has a no presence here.

YouTube is particularly popular among younger people who prefer the variety of



content, interactive components, and instant gratification of YouTube video content over traditional television. Many use it for entertainment purposes, for learning how to do something (tutorials), for keeping up with their favorite hobby videos, and more. NMRA SSR has a YouTube presence here: YouTube - SSR has a no presence here.

Now I know what the different sites are used for...

What the heck is the "#" and the "@" used for and when should I use them? Respectively those are called "hashtag" (#) and the "at" (@) symbols. Using the @ refers to a person/group in a conversation, such as @andyzimmerman or @NMRA_SSR, and the # refers to a topic of conversation, #TTRAK or #ModelRailroading. Using the # tag generally indicates that you want to participate in a larger, ongoing conversation, it groups your conversation in with anyone



else using that particular #. For instance, if I use #SSR or #NMRA, your conversation will appear in those larger conversations. Using the @ tag signifies to someone that you're talking about them,

giving them a head up about something, and/or would like them to respond. For instance, "Here is a great photo taken at the train show by @NMRA_SSR or @SeniorChiefZ."

DEADLINES

May 15 - Summer August 15 - Fall November 15 - Winter February 15 - Spring Issues are mailed approximately 5 weeks following these deadlines

History is a Great Teacher

History is a great teacher, and it is a road map to where social media sites are trending. What was popular one day may lose its base in the following years based on the perception of the site and its relevance. Does anyone remember having a "Myspace" account? It was the dominant site when Facebook came on the scene and they were the platform to beat. It still exists today but is it relevant? Nuff said.

Over the past couple of years, the trends are shifting for some and flattening out for others. YouTube and Facebook continue to dominate the online landscape overall, with 81% and 69%, respectively, reporting using these

sites. YouTube and Reddit were the only two platforms measured that

saw statistically significant growth since 2019,

Other platforms do not nearly match the overall reach of YouTube or Facebook, however, there are certain

sites or apps, most notably Instagram, Snapchat, and Tik-Tok, that have an especially strong following among young adults. In fact, a majority of 18- to 29-year-olds say they

use Instagram (71%) or Snapchat (65%), while roughly half say the same for TikTok. So, diversifying into other platforms helps us to get our presence known and message out to people who may have otherwise missed it, and most especially as people shift platforms, we are still there.

As people become discontent and move to other platforms, having a presence on Twitter, Instagram and Reddit is beneficial to the SSR community. How do we become an influence in the model railroading community? We must create and drive people to those sites. That means content, interesting content, and sharing, and that is where you come in!

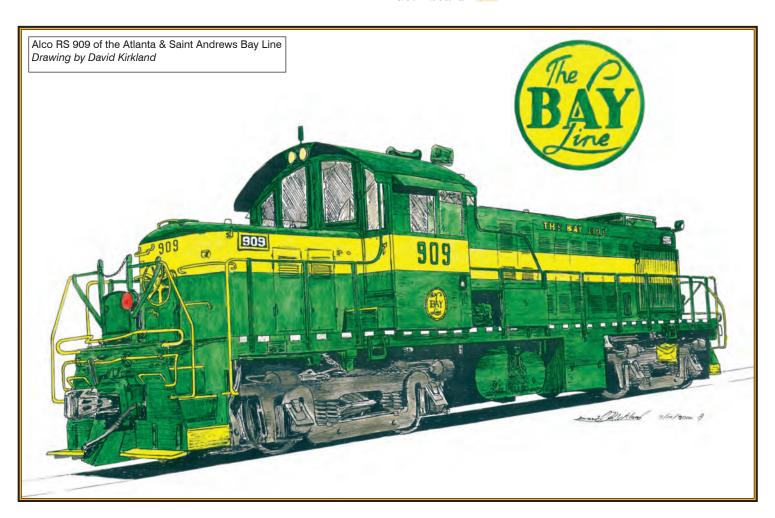
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to the success or the
downfall of social
media sites. Are
you ready? Do you
have an idea or post
that our community
would benefit from
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Come join us on Facebook and when we bring new sites online.

Get Aboard!! SER



Moving a Model Railroad or How Do I Reuse Modules?

Doug Scott by photos by Doug

COVID hit Eastham, MA on Cape Cod hard during the years of 2020-2021 and the Bay Colony & Western Railroad, Atlantic Division fell on hard times. No product was moving by rail and no passengers were riding. This meant that the BC&W could not pay bills or its employees. This led to some hard thinking, especially as winter is not kind along the Atlantic Ocean in the Northeast, and enduring cold, damp, gray, windy days from late October to the beginning of May was no longer appealing to the owners, not to mention snow and blizzards.

What to do?

Property values were up and as more people wanted to move out of the cities and work remotely, the Bay Colony & Western land became more valuable as home sites instead of a railroad. The owners wanted to stay in the railroad business so they looked around for a short line they might purchase in a warmer climate. As it so happened, the Palmetto Southeastern in Bluffton, SC became available. This railroad is located just across the Georgia line from Savannah and serves the 'low country' of South Carolina, inland of Hilton Head Island with a connection to CSX in Hardeeville, SC. It had some industries, with the potential to add more and add some passenger service.

The decision was made in late summer 2020 to sell the Cape Cod property and reinvest South of the Mason-Dixon in an area far from snow and cold and damp – yes it can get cold and wet in the low country during the winter, but the prospect of snow is not high. Hurricanes, maybe, but Cape Cod also has severe storms.

By early winter, 2020 the Bay Colony & Western, Atlantic Division had sold their land – fortunately there were no hazmat issues – and placed a bid for the Palmetto Southeastern. The bid was accepted, and the new railroad was closed on in February of 2021. The owners of the BC&W were fully moved onto their new property by the middle of March 2021. Thus began the task of rehabbing as well as building new in the Low Country of South Carolina.

The relocation from the Cape to Bluffton required a good bit of downsizing from a two-story house with full basement to a small single story with a garage and no basement. My Eastham home had a working model railroad that was not portable. We had not expected to ever move, but one should not say "never." The garage here in the new home only provided me with room for an 8'x16' oval pike

with a duck under, a little less than one half of the new garage space.

My old layout was approximately 20x24 feet around the room with an 8x6 foot peninsula in the middle. The rest of the new garage

became Ellen's stained and fused glass workshop and our laundry room. No space for cars, although there is room for a golf cart if we ever get one. I knew that I wanted a model

railroad in our new home. When I lived on Cape Cod, I was a long-time member of the Cape Cod Model Railroad Club and then a big part of the Bay Colony & Western Modular switching layout as well as a member of



the Amherst Belt Lines Division of the Amherst Railway Society, and the Sand Dunes Central [Cape Cod based] round robin operating group.

With both the Cape Cod Central, modular arm of the Cape Cod Model Railroad Club, and the BC&W I had constructed several modules for their portable exhibition setups. Since I already had decided that I would not be building new bench-work, these made for me a perfect way to start my new layout. The only thing I did change was the height. I went from 44 inches to 52 inches by adding new legs – much easier to duck under. At some point, I may change one two-foot-wide section into a hinged bridge.

Portable is the key word! One never knows if a move is in the future. I brought eight of my existing modules with me when we moved. I already knew how much space I had allocated to my layout area and knew how the modules would go together. One module, my Amherst Belt Lines stayed up north and became a part of the Bay Colony & Western, Marion Division. I did need to add two corners. A former BC&W section was no longer in use by its owner, so I acquired that one and prior to moving built another corner from the remains of my home layout. By using existing modules, I was able to get a layout up and running much



faster than
disposing of the
old modules and
starting from
scratch. This did
limit my design,
but I have
restricted space,
so this worked
perfectly for me.

YOUR PIKE COULD BE HERE

\$16/YEAR (FOUR ISSUES)

Once I arrived in Bluffton, I moved boxes, many boxes, around in the garage and began the new set up. I did need



to build one end here but that went well. Next up was remodeling existing modules and creating track designs for the others to provide for continuous running as well as operations. The modules were already

constructed with three main lines and multiple cross overs, so I was good to go once I put down track on the new

sections. Adding sidings and run arounds was easy. I moved way too many locomotives and rolling stock with me and added more when the BC&W took over the remains of the Palmetto Southeastern. I also

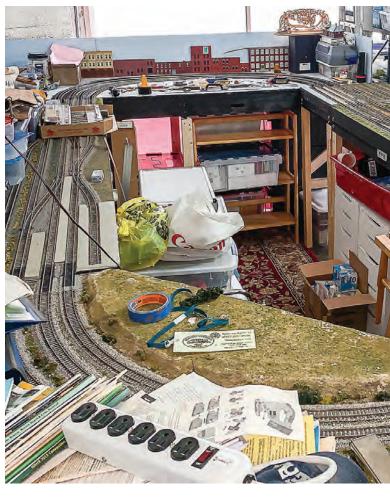




brought several boxes of buildings from the Cape Cod layout that I was able to reuse a completed wiring harnesses which fit the new modules that would easily connect to the old ones. I use the NCE DCC system to control the layout. Cleaning up the property, adding scenery and ballasting is next, then working out my operations plan.

In closing, moving is not easy, downsizing is hard, but setting up a new model railroad can be quick if one has modules and moves them along with everything else. I've learned that one always brings way too much from the previous layout if downsizing. It's really hard to part with model railroad equipment! Moving from a cold, damp Northeast basement to a cool in winter, hot in summer Southern garage is also quite a change, especially if said garage is not temperature controlled. A screen across the garage door opening helps, then the door can stay open when working on the layout. SER









Get out of the basement and operate... on the Eagle Point Railroad!



You don't need to own equipment to participate. Operations events are in April, June, and October.

See our web page at: www.csme-eprr.com & Calendar at:

www.csme-eprr.com/events/calendar/2023

And contact us at:

radio-dispatch-operations@csme-eprr.com card-orders@csme-eprr.com



CARTERSVILLE EXPRESS

2023 SER CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2023

Come have a fun time at the

Clarence Brown Conference Center

5450 Georgia Highway 20, Cartersville, GA

Don't miss these great activities, including an NMRA Model Contest and Photo Contest, Clinics, White Elephant Table, Raffle Items, Prototype Tours and more.

> Keynote Banquet Speaker Todd Stennis - Amtrak

Self-guided Layout Tours - Friday through Sunday Operating Layout Sessions - Thursday through Saturday

> Non Rail Activities include Gibbs Garden - Lunch - Big Door Vineyards Booth Western Art Museum - Lunch

Information is subject to change. Please watch for updated info and register at

2023serconvention.org

Hosted by the Piedmont Division, NMRA







New Tracks Modeling Mentoring Scholarships for Young Model Railroaders by Jim Kellow MMR

New Tracks Modeling is about Mentoring and model building. It is a volunteer organization run by model railroaders which also raises funds for its programs through volunteer donations. This year New Tracks Modeling started an exciting new scholarship program for young model railroaders.

New Tracks Modeling live Zoom shows are about all aspects of model railroad modeling which are also live streamed on its YouTube channel: New Tracks Modeling. The live shows are available to all model railroaders. To get the Zoom log-in link for attending a live show, subscribe through the www.newtracksmodeling.com website. There are over 750 videos of past shows on the New Tracks Modeling YouTube channel for you to enjoy.

New Tracks Modeling founder, Jim Kellow, MMR started expanding the New Tracks Modeling programs to young modelers when he was appointed several years ago as the Ambassador for Model Railroading by the APMM (Association of Professional Model Makers). Jim and the APMM believe the model railroading skills and confidence gained by building models make young modelers ideal candidates for careers as Professional Model Makers. Check out their website at: www.modelmakers.org.

This year *New Tracks Modeling* expanded its youth programs further by starting a \$1,000.00 scholarship program for young model railroaders. It has been successful in obtaining funding through contributions associated with the shows.

This scholarship is for young Model Railroaders who are students who are graduating or have recently graduated from a high school with a minimum of a 3.0 GPA and are going to attend or are currently enrolled in a STEAM program in a United States 2 or 4 year college, university or an accredited technical school. In the future *New Tracks Modeling* hopes to expand to include other countries so that the scholarship is International in scope. Details about the scholarship, applications, and filing instructions are available on the "New Tracks" website at: www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship.

Now it is up to you, members of the model railroading community to spread the word and encourage young model railroaders to take advantage of this scholarship to help pay for their continued education and success. For questions or how to submit a paper copy of an application, please contact the Scholarship Committee Chairman, Bob Davidson at:

Bob Davidson New Tracks Modeling Mentoring Scholarship 6273 Gulf Stream Path Cicero, NY 13039 email: bobdavidson@newtracksmodeling.com



Attention all High School Seniors & College Students!

Are You a Model Railroader?
Are You a Modeler?
Are You Pursuing a STEAM Degree?

New Tracks Modeling Mentoring Scholarship

A unique scholarship focused to Model Railroaders and other modelers pursuing a STEAM related college degree or technical school credential.

Scan the QR code to learn more and download an application!



Questions? E-mail us at: NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com

www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship

If you have a son or daughter or a grand child who meets the scholarship criteria *New Tracks Modeling* hopes you will make them aware of this scholarship opportunity.

Thank you in advance for your interest and assistance! SER



Southeastern Region Division News



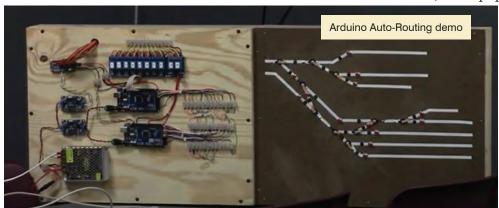


Division 1 - Mid-South Dave Carlton dpcarlton59@gmail.com

Mid South Division has continued throughout the winter to support the local visiting community to the Decatur Union Depot. We announce the

Virtual Rail live on-line streaming with sound 24-7-365 of the CSX – NS split crossing the Tennessee River. Upwards We continued the Arduino clinics with Andy Smith providing a build-and-take away of Arduino – "Are You Being Servoed," covering the details of servo motor control, positioning, speed and direction. Several programming techniques were presented including change-on-the-fly parametric adjustments.

Dave Carlton, a Master DOD Soldering Instructor presented an updated Soldering Clinic for dispelling bad habits, corrected methods for making reliable and consistent connections, and equipment maintenance.



Our Web Master Ken Mattern is a master videographer and produces, records, edits, and presents our clinics on our YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/@mid-south-nmra651.

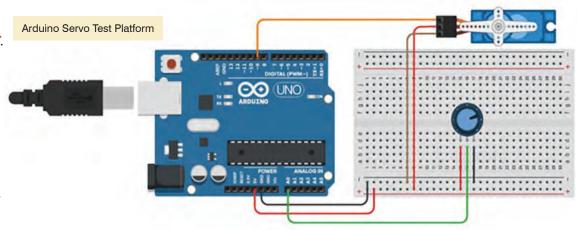
Coming up – Clinic: Make your own DCC++EX with Arduino.

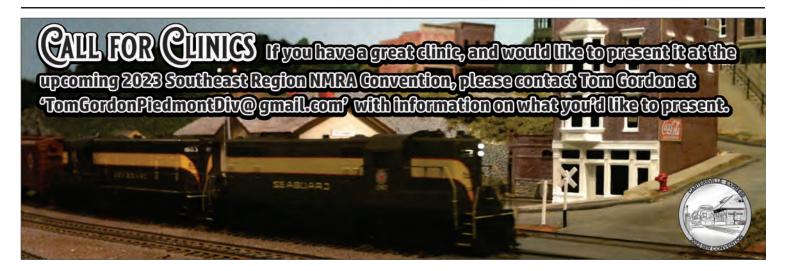
Visit Mid South Division at www.mid-southnmra.org/MidSouth.php.

By Andy Smith, Secretary SER

of 35 trains per day are available at www.youtube. com/embed/zvtZVDBPupI;f.

Our clinic program has continued with Arduino Multi-turnout Auto Routing by servo with proof-of-principle demo and programming by Sandy Warrington. Included are live display panels for set-up, switching and display.







Division 7 Palmetto Roger Liska

riggor@clemson.edu

In early January, the Division held another "What's On Your Bench" one hour long video session where presenters each have 10 minutes to present something on their railroad they are working on or recently completed. Each presentation is followed by about 5 minutes of questions from those participating. The January session's presenters and general topics began with Wayne Fort (Palmetto and NCR Division 2 member) showing his main line track layout construction for a 7' x 12' double around layout which he was wiring and building an upper level along with in the initial stages of building land forms. The second presenter was Rob Seel (Palmetto Division member) on the construc-

tion of a steam locomotor and the third presenter was Markus Weller (Palmetto Division member) constructing magnetically guided vehicles and his LED illuminated gas station. The session concluded with a sharing of upcoming railroad events and activities.

The Division also participated in the Central Railway Model and Historical Association's Model Train Exposition on February 17 and 18 in Easley, SC. The Division staffed a NMRA Exhibit which was visited by hundreds of people along with its Modular-T Track Layout. The layout, under the guidance of Dave Winans, was thoroughly enjoyed by the attendees especially the children. Finally, the Board of Directors is in the final phase of planning for the Division's spring meeting on March 18 at the Northgate Baptist Church in Greenville, SC. The morning will be devoted to three clinics: Popular models, popular photos and tips/techniques, and a business meeting. The afternoon will provide attendees the opportunity to visit two operating layouts in the Greenville area.

Division 8 - Atlantic Rick Fulkerson

rick@mountaingoatbroadcast.com

The Charleston Model Railroad club held a train show on January 7-8 and they invited us to set up a table for the NMRA Atlantic Division membership drive. The show had good attendance and we did gain a couple of new NMRA members from our time there.

Our winter meet is delayed to March 11 in the Savannah, GA area. The report for that meet will be in the Summer SouthErneR.

Our Spring meet is scheduled for April 29 in Myrtle Beach, SC. Check our division website for details as they come available.

We are looking forward to our upcoming meets. More activities are in the planning stages. **SER**





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Division 9 - Central Savannah River Andy Chandler andy.chandler71@gmail.com



We held our Division meeting on February 18 in Aiken.

Our local operating group held a large group all day session on January 25 with 13 in attendance.

Our next meeting will be in April. SER



Division 10 - Bluff City Steven Flowers palmodelrailroader@gmail.com

The Bluff City Division has had a few outings the last month. Several members went to Paducah, Kentucky to visit the two hobby shops in the that area. The owners at Classic Trains & Ferraris and Fast Freight Hobbies were very gracious hosts and very knowledgeable towards their products.

We also visited a layout and operated on it. A special thanks to JT Coleman and Kylo, his dog for hosting an operating session. Additionally, we did some rail-fanning in the area with the Paducah & Louisville Railway.

The Division meeting we had for January was a huge success! There were 16 folks who showed up, the most in a meeting that I can recall. Dalton Flowers gave a great clinic on improving operations on your layout. **SER**









Division 13 - Cherokee Brian Ford briantford@aol.com

The Cherokee Division has resumed in-person meetings and activities approximately every other month. On November 5, we held a meeting at Ed

Painter's home in Cohuttan, GA where we watched a video presentation of the Norfolk Southern's defunct Saluda Grade, as well as rail-fanned the current NS traffic behind Ed's property. We also ran long freight trains on Ed's expansive HO layout.

On December 3, the Cherokee Division and the Chattanooga Modular Modelers (CMM) hosted a joint Christmas potluck/party, complete with white elephant gift exchange (some of those wrapped HO and N scale gifts have been in circulation for several years running!).

On February 11, the Cherokee Division held a show-and-tell meeting in East Ridge TN (*photo right*),

followed by open house of Ed Tougaw's N-scale layout in Ringgold, GA.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 15, to be followed by open house at Bill Orman's HO layout and Willy Clonts' narrow gauge layout, both in Soddy-Daisy, TN.

On January 28-29, the CMM participated in Trains! Trains! Trains! at the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History. The club welcomed the next generation of model railroaders and railfans with two types of modular N scale layouts, including one module containing scratch-built structures based on the Boxcar Kids stories.





Division 15 Carolina Mountain Paul Spilman paul@spilman.me

The Carolina Mountain Division is pleased to announce the 2026 SER Convention will be held in the Asheville, North Carolina area. Exact details have not been finalized, so stay tuned for more information and be sure to go to www.2026serconvention.org to sign up for email updates.

We also have a Facebook Page where we will be posting updates: www.facebook.com/ser2026 - be sure to "Like" or "Follow" the page. We are very excited to host the convention again and are looking forward to putting together a great experience for the Southeastern Region.

Our next Division meeting will be April 22 at 9:30 am at the Fletcher Library. Watch for periodic update emails (contact me if you are not receiving them: paul@spilman. me) and be sure to join our Division Facebook Group at: www.facebook.com/groups/CarolinaMountainDiv to stay up to date as well. SER

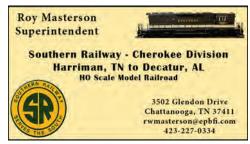












THE CLUB CAR

This is a list of clubs and organizations in the Southeastern Region. If your club is accepting new members or visitors, kindly send the information to the Editor at: SouthErneR@ejpj.com. Please provide a contact name and phone number. Websites will be listed if given.

Atlantic - Division 8

Coastal Rail Buffs, Savannah, GA, Nate Stone, 912-354-2606 www.coastalrailbuffs.ord

Charleston Area Model Railroad Club, Citadel Mall in Charleston, SC Tom Kabele, tkabele@sc.rr.com; www.camrc.club

Grand Strand MRRC, Myrtle Beach Mall, North Myrtle Beach, SC Joe Corsetti, 843-236-9148, yrusoslo728@aol.com; www.gsmrrc.org

Golden Isles Model Railroad Club, Brunswick, GA Helio Valdes, 912-261-2478; t29b52f4@comcast.net groups.yahoo.com/group/GIMRRC

Sun City Model RR Club, Bluffton, SC Doug Scott, deraildh2@aol.com

Bluff City - Division 10

The Memphis N-Scale Road Railers

The Memphis Society of Model Engineers - The 1st Saturday Night Group Highland St Church of Christ, 7:30 PM contact Ned for additionall info; nssavage@juno.com

Carolina Mountain - Division 15

Apple Valley Model Railroad Club, Hendersonville, NC Located in Hendersonville Station; www.avmrc.com

French Broad e'N'pire NTRAK Club, Hendersonville, NC

Chuck Place, 828-685-2726; hmp3@blueridge.net; www.fdr-ntrak.com

Waynesville Area Rail Roaders

Waynesville, NC; www.facebook.com/WARRNC

Western North Carolina Model Railroaders; email: webmaster@wncmrr.org

Central Savannah River - Divison 9

OFRRA Operators, Tuesday nights, Aiken SC, Steve Prevette, 803-594-5079

Cherokee Division 13

Chattanooga Society of Model Engineers, Dunlap, TN

Andy Morrison, 423-344-8502; www.csme-eprr.com

Chattanooga Modular Modelers, Inc. meet Monday & Thursday at 6:30 pm Mark McAllister, 423-424-0352; www.chattmodmod.org

Tennessee Valley Model Railroaders, Inc., Chattanooga, TN Steve Crowe, 423-443-1517; www.TVMRi.org

Cumberland - Division 11

Dixie Model Railroad Club, 2101 Belmont Blvd, Nashville, TN 37212

Eric Hansmann, 304-376-0256; eric@hansmanns.org

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; www.nashvillentrak.org

Nashville Garden Railway Soc., Nashville, TN, Ross Evans, 615-292-6555

Tennessee Central Railway Museum, Nashville, TN

Terry Bebout, 615-244-9001; terry.bebout@earthlink.net; www.tcry.org

Tennessee T-Track Associates, Franklin, TN

Ed Minnich, 615-416-2892; ttraknv@gmail.com; www.tenntrak.org

Dixie - Division 3

Central Alabama Model RR Club, Montgomery/Prattville, AL

Phil Hutchinson, 334-272-1933 or Joe Mashburn 251-363-8508

MGB Model Railroad Club, Prattville, AL Visitors welcome

Brett Scott, 334-799-3096; www.mgbrr.org

Wiregrass Steel Wheels Sub-Division, Dothan, AL

Dan Adams, 334-588-3312; danielma522@centurytel.net

Empire - Division 6

Flint River Model RR Club, Albany, GA, Jimmy Swinn, 229-883-3517 MGMRC - Middle Georgia Model RR Club, Warner Robins, GA

Bill Attaway, 478-954-9200; mgmrc@cox.net; www.mgmrc.org

MGRA - Middle Georgia RR Association, Bill Jones

wrjones845@aol.com; middlegeorgiarailroadassociation.com South Georgia Model RR Club, Hahira, GA, (Near Valdosta) Todd Tait, 229-548-3611

Gulf - Division 4

Caboose Club, Foley Railroad Museum, 125 E Laurel Ave, Foley, AL 36535 Bonnie Donaldson, 251-943-1818; foleymuseum@gulftel.com

CATT - Costal Alabama T-TRAK, Bruce Arbo, 228-669-6705 $coastal a labamattrak @gmail.com, \\ \textcolor{red}{\textbf{www.nationalt-traklayout.com}}$

Emerald Coast Garden Ry Club, Jack Grill, 850-994-7226; www.ecgrc.com Usually meet on 3rd Saturday at noon in the Diner Car

of the West Florida RR Museum, Milton FL Glenn Samuel's Operating Group, Mobile, AL 205-914-0693

2nd Saturday of the month @ 1 p.m.; Gasamuel@aol.com

Miracle Strip Model RR Club, Shalimar, FL

Ray Follacchio, 850-865-8822

Mobile Society of Model Engineers, Alabama Gulf - Chapter, NRHS 8060 Morris Hill Rd, Semmes AL 36575-6424; Dave Miller, 251-689-2673

Pensacola Model Railroad Club (PMRC), Pensacola, FL

HO Division - Steve "Chip" Borona, 850-384-3206; www.PMRC.us

N Divison - Terry Tucker, 850-723-5390

Z Division - Joshua Murrah, 251-533-6481

Southwest Alabama Railroad Modelers (SWARM), Mobile, AL

Glenn Samuel, 205-914-0693, Gasamuel@aol.com

Monthly round robin meetings or event - contact for details.

West Florida Model Railroad Club, Milton, FL Tom Augustine, 850-944-0471; www.wfrm.org

Magnolia - Division 14

Central Mississippi Model Railroad Association, Jackson, MS MS Ag and Forestry Museum, 1150 Lakeland Dr, Jackson MS 39216 Nils Larsen, 601-432-4500; www.cmmra.org

Mississippi Coast Model RR Museum, 504 Pass Rd, Gulfport, MS 39507 228-284-5731; timetrain54@yahoo.com; www.mcmrcm.org

Mid-South - Division 1

Northeast Alabama Model Railroad Club, Guntersville, AL

Charles Dick, 205-878-2537; charlesdick@bellsouth.net

Redstone Model Railroad Club, Huntsville, AL; www.rmrrc.net Coosa Valley Model RR Assoc. www.coosavalleymodelrailroad.com

Palmetto - Division 7

Associated Model Railroads of Columbia (AMROC), Columbia, SC

Clark Gregory, 803-781-7912; www.amroc.org

Carolina Railroad Heritage Association, Inc.;

Central Railway Model and Historical Association (CRM&HA), Central, SC

Sandy Eistus, 513-325-8850; www.crmha.org

Piedmont N' Southern, Greenville, SC

Michael Offik, 864-884-2165; www.piedmontnsouthern.org

The Carolina Conspiracy (On30 modular) Andrew Gillette, 803-316-8128

amn_a_gillette@yahoo.com; groups.yahoo.com/group/carolina_on30conspiracy Station 187 Model Railroad Club, Greer, SC; www.station187.net

Piedmont - Division 5

Atlanta Interlocking Model Railroad Club;

Charlie Crawford, 678-982-4699

Athens Bend Track Railroad Club

Peter Wood, 706-215-3313; www.facebook.com/AthensBendTrack

Atlantic Coast S-Gaugers, Bob Lacheen

home 770-578-9937; cell 404-431-8032; www.trainweb.org/acsg

Boomers, John Rieken, Saturday a.m.; OPS Athens, Gwinnett, Commerce areas email for specific dates; jrieken@windstream.net

Chattahoochee Express Operating Group, Chris White, 770-594-2618 Georgia Garden Railway Society, Terry Manning, 770-564-8822 temanning@aol.com www.ggrs.info

Georgia Society of Ferroequinologists, Marietta

Bob Hoenes, 770-422-0081; Jasper Roundhouse, Jasper, GA

Phil Stead, trainman07@aol.com; all scales, meets weekly at a member's home

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

www.ngltc.org OR questions@ngltc.org

North Georgia Modurail, Jon Cook, 770-993-9620

NWGA T-TRAK Club Kennesaw GA

Jim Nealand, 678-358-9171; casadiego86@gmail.com

Railroad Model Club of Atlanta, Bob Peppel, 770-934-4067

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 RR Club,

Vines Botanical Gardens, 3500 Oak Grove Rd, Loganville, GA 30052

Plateau - Division 16

Crossville Model RR Club, Crossville, TN; Tom Shallcross, 931-484-7565 chipmonk4@comcast.net; www.crossvilletrains.org

Smoky Mountain - Division 12

Knoxville Area Model Railroaders, Oak Ridge, TN

Brad Tutt, 865-776-4703; meetings are 1st & 3rd Sundays

Mountain Empire Modular Railroaders, Johnson City, TN, East TN State Univ. George Carter Museum, Dr. Fred Alsop, 423-929-3733; www.memrr.org

Maryville MRRC, Alnwick Community Club 2146 Big Springs Rd., Maryville TN 37803

Don Clark, 503-730-4869; meets first Saturday each month, 10 a.m. to noon

Steel City - Division 2

Black Warrior Model RR Society, Tuscaloosa, AL, Bob Way, 205-556-3073 Smokey City Model Rails, Birmingham, AL; www.smokeycityrails.com Wrecking Crew Model RR Club, Birmingham, AL; Whit Francher; 205-746-0007 Steel City Shifters Operating Group, jstew@bhamrails.info

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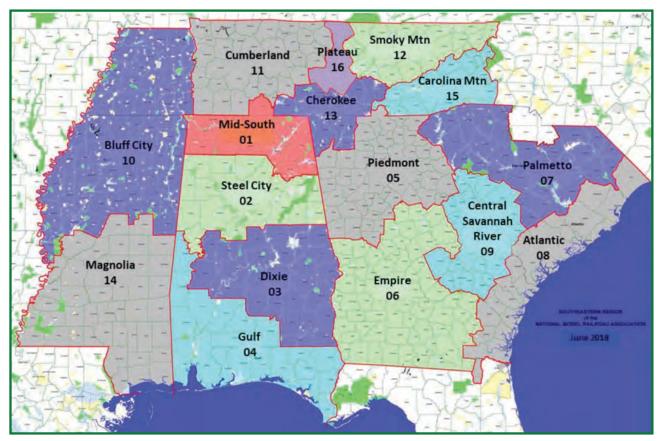
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The SouthErneR

Southeastern Region, NMRA 782 Jays Way Ringgold GA 30736-8954







