



The ***SOUTHERNER***



Summer 2023

The Official Publication of the Southeastern Region
of the National Model Railroad Association



A southbound coal extra blasts out of a tunnel to cross the Nickajack bridge on Bob Moody's HO scale NC&StL layout in Brentwood, TN.

Cover photo courtesy of Eric Hansmann

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CARTERSVILLE EXPRESS

2023 SER CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2023

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an NMRA Model Contest and Photo Contest, Clinics,
White Elephant Table, Raffle Items, Prototype Tours and more.

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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



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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!

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interested parties who have paid the subscription rate of \$10.00/year.

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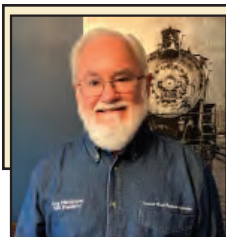
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The President's Car

Roy Masterson

rwmasterson@epbf.com

The Spring of 2023 was a busy one for me. I was able to run trains on my layout or attend other sessions around the SER. I attended the Piedmont Division Train Show in March where we held the SER Winter Board meeting, attended two Cherokee Division Board meetings and open houses, and worked on the Tennessee Valley Model Railroaders layout at the TVRM; and attended an NMRA Region Presidents zoom meeting with President Gordy Robinson and other Region Presidents from around the world. It's great that we are all back to normal and busier than ever.

Don't forget to register for the 2023 Piedmont Division Cartersville Express that will be held in Cartersville, GA, September 14-17. The Piedmont Division Convention Committee is working to make this year's convention a great success. This issue of the Southerner has a lot of information on activities to look forward to at the convention. We will be holding the Annual Board of Director's and General Membership meetings on Saturday during the convention.

On March 29, 4 students from the University of Tennessee



at Chattanooga (UTC) visited the Tennessee Valley Model Railroaders layout at the TVRM to shoot a short film about the layout. The TVMR

web site has a link to this video, www.TVMRi.org, select videos, then "Tiny Trains."



I wound up in the video and in one of the photos in the article. The students are majoring in photojournalism and communications, it was good to see them take an interest in our hobby, and create a professional looking article and video.

When you think about ways to promote events or our hobby in general, I think we should look at college or university departments that have

these majors who might be looking for interesting subjects to report.

On April 15 the Cherokee Division held a luncheon meeting where Walt Liles gave a presentation of the Cartersville Express. Following that there were two open houses



for layout tours. At Willie Clount's fantastic layout I spent time talking to David Barron (*photo below*), former President of the Sunshine Region.



DEADLINES

August 15 - Fall

November 15 - Winter

February 15 - Spring

May 15 - Summer

Issues are mailed approximately 5 weeks following these deadlines



Mike Cyr, of Virtual Railfan, filmed some of those new Scale Trains GP30's pulling trains on my layout. The footage should be appearing in Scale Trains promotional videos this summer. My HO scale trains are a little smaller than the 1:1 trains which Mike normally shoots on over 100 live video cameras in the U.S. and Canada.

As in 2022, we are again holding elections for SER Officers and Directors later than normal to coincide

with the SER Convention in September. When you get the SER election information and list of candidates be sure to vote. The electronic system is easy to use and only takes a few minutes of your time.

The Texas Express, 2023 NMRA National Convention, will be held at the Gaylord Resort in Grapevine (Dallas/Fort Worth), Texas, August 20-26.

Hopefully we will have good representation from the SER at the convention.

To see more information and register for the convention go to: www.2023texasexpress.com.

And lastly, it looks like I'm going to have to find an unin-

corporated area on my layout for a firehall. One of my model railroading friends, Greg Lampkin, is a captain in the Knoxville Tennessee Fire Department. He sent me the picture of the fire truck for a community up in Pennsylvania. Just goes to show there

are prototypes that you never knew existed. Just need some decals for one of my fire trucks. If you ever drive through the real Mastersonville, don't blink or you'll miss it!

It may be Summer, but I hope you'll find time on those hot afternoons to spend time working on your layout or running trains with friends. **SER**



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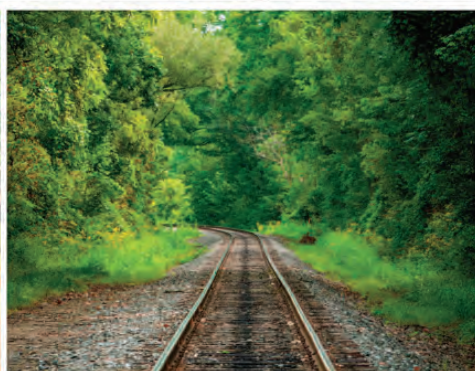
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LOCUST GROVE EST. 1893



Achievement Program

New Awards in Our Southeastern Region This Quarter



Golden Spike Award

Edward Potts - *Plateau*



Certificates

Association Official

Steven Flowers - *Bluff City*



Association Volunteer

Scott Dunlap - *Piedmont*

Richard Morris - *Plateau*



Model Railroad Author

Charles Hidgon - *Cherokee*



Model Railroad Engineers Civil

Randall V. Watson - *Piedmont*



Electrical

Craig Gardner - *Steel City*

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)

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Empire (6)

Stephen Floyd; jstephenfloyd@gmail.co; 478-960-1026

Gulf (4)

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Magnolia (14)

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

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

Palmetto (7)

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Piedmont (5)

Charles Mason MMR; candjmason@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

The following is from the NMRA website and worth repeating.

In simple terms, the Achievement Program (AP) is a travel guide, to help you on your journey through the world of model railroad-ing. The AP also provides incentive to learn and master the many crafts and skills necessary in the hobby of model railroading. With the completion of each category, you will be issued a certificate acknowledging your achievement.

The AP requirements are a set of standards, but they can also serve as a set of guideposts for those who are new, near-new, and not-so-new to the hobby. Not because they lead to some sort of official pat-on-the-back, but because they are a source of ideas for projects that can help us learn to become better modelers.

Briefly, the AP is a system of requirements for demonstrating a superior level of skill in various aspects of our hobby. It covers not only building various types of models, but also building other things which are important to the hobby, such as scenery, structures, track work, and wiring. It also recognizes service to the hobby and the NMRA, which are important as well.

Master Model Railroader (MMR)

An NMRA member qualifies as an MMR when one has obtained at least seven of the eleven Achievement Certificates provided that one has earned at least one Certificate in each of the four areas of the Regulations. Earning the title of MMR is the ultimate goal for many participants in the Achievement Program.

The 11 Achievement Program Awards by the 4 Categories are:

1. Model Railroad Equipment
Master Builder Motive Power
Master Builder Cars
2. Settings
Master Builder Scenery
Master Builder Structures
Master Builder Prototype Models
3. Engineering and Operation
Model Railroad Engineer—Civil
Model Railroad Engineer—Electrical
Chief Dispatcher
4. Service to the Hobby
Association Official
Association Volunteer
Model Railroad Author

To qualify for the Master Model Railroader status, you must earn 7 of the above awards with the stipulation that at least one award must be earned in each of the 4 categories.

Some people may be reluctant to participate in the AP, because the rules seem difficult to understand. The website pages explain each of the different categories in the AP and the requirements.

Golden Spike Award

If you are new to the AP, may we recommend that you take a look at the Golden Spike Award, although not an actual AP category its requirements are structured along the same lines. Further Information is available at www.nmra.org.





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 using plastic signs as bases for scenery so that the base is easy to move should you need to.

I have the Walthers structure kit 933-3018 “Golden Valley Canning Company.” There is the main building and a boiler building with piping for the hot water or steam. The photo on the box has a boxcar between the two buildings. The instructions have a good deal of information about canning food. But what fuels the boiler in the smaller building? They don’t offer any suggestions for



the fuel. You can see a clean out door at the bottom of the chimney section. One source could be coal, so a hopper car delivers the coal via a conveyor belt loaded into bin or hopper. Wheelbarrows to carry the coal into the boiler house. Or maybe a stoker pipe assembly to feed the coal to the boiler. Another source is oil, with a tank car, hoses, and pumps to a tank on the property and piping into the building to the boiler.

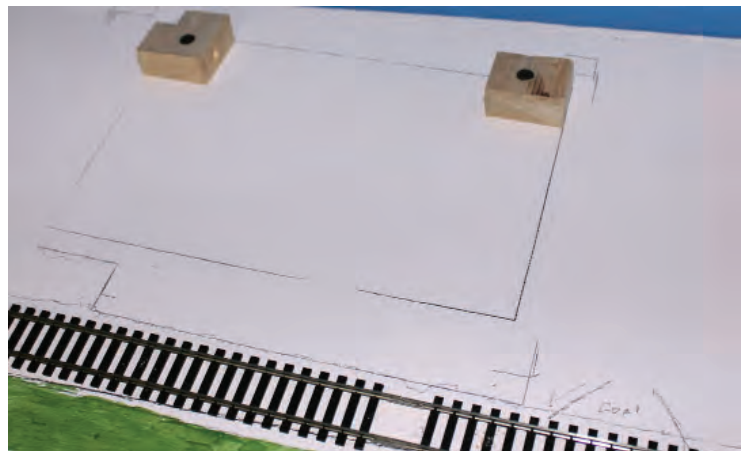
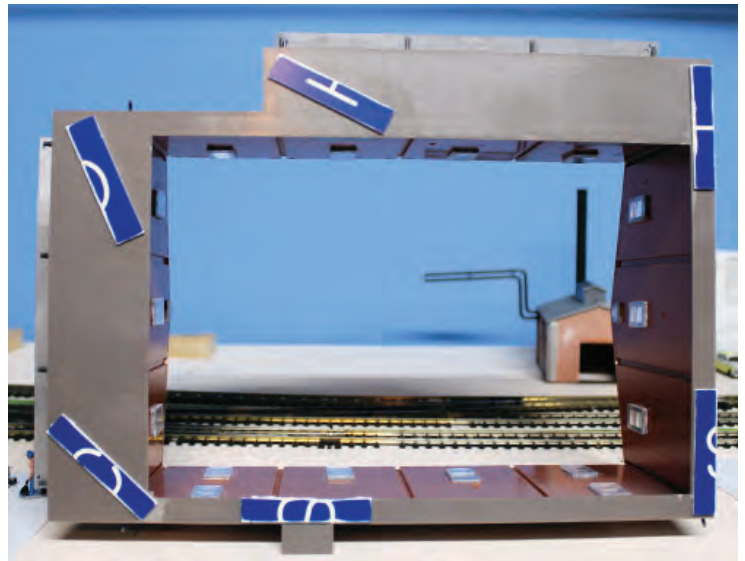
Of course, if natural gas is available in the street, just glue a gas meter to the street side of the boiler house and you are done.

If you like to change the era of your railroad from time to time, then make both versions on the same size base so you can swap them out when your timeline requires it. Working with the small base also allows you to work on it at your work bench/desk. Much easier on the bench than on the layout.

I have another example of this. My layout is three levels, so working on the top level is not always easy. On the corner of the end section, there are three buildings on a painted sign. I still need to finish the scenery work, but the basic layout of the area is there. Because of the size of this, I will slide it onto a board to move it, otherwise the sign would bend too much and the buildings would probably fall off.



Going back to the Canning building, when I pushed an Athearn box car under the awning, it hit some of the roof supports and the down spout. So, I glued some strips of plastic to raise it a little. I also screwed some blocks to the back corners. If the building is moved and “put back into position,” it will not be too close to the tracks.



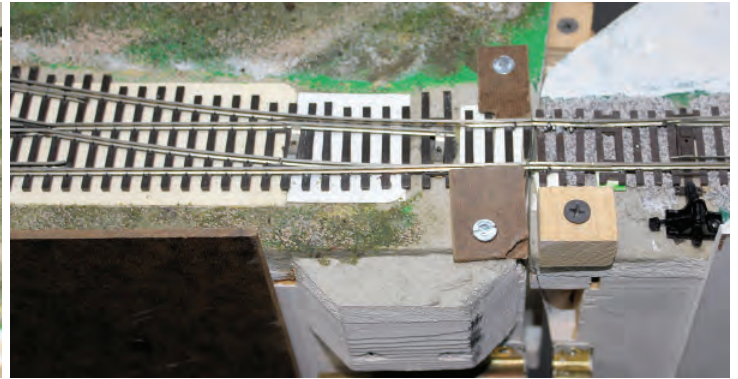
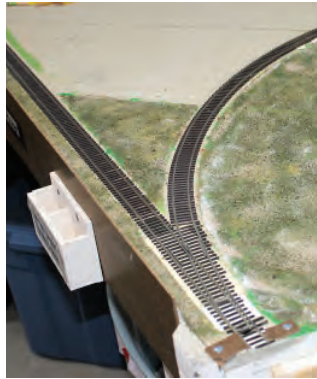
Next, I want to tell you about a short I had on the layout. Sometimes they are hard to figure out. This one only happened sometimes. Maybe just once an operating session. I have a hinged lift-up section so one can access the yard area. When it is in place the track coming off of it goes to a turnout in a wye. So, the polarity of that turnout changes during the session. One direction is used most of the time, but the other way, just once or twice in a session.

The lift up section is fed from a section that most of the

time is part of a reverse loop. But when the turnout is in the once or twice a session position, the section is part of a circle. So, you guessed it, the rails were touching and when in the circle position causing a short. If it wasn't a lift-up section, there would be insulated joiners at this point and the auto reverser would do its job. But the small surface area that was touching when the polarity changed did not activate the auto reverser. It made the trains in the circuit crawl and the overload open the circuit after the breaker heated up enough. It took a while for the circuit breaker to heat up and break the circuit completely. I filed the rail ends enough to create a gap and we are back in business.

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 the NMRA 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**



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

NMRA members can log in at www.nmra.org and click on the **Benefits** tab to view the **NMRA Partnership Program**. Please patronize all of our partners for some fantastic discounts as an NMRA member!

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***[New partners in RED]**

Ready To Go To the 2023 SER Convention

Cartersville Express

by Walt Liles - Convention Chair

Well, it's time to register if you have not.

The *Cartersville Express Convention* team wants to share with you many of the fine activities we have planned. Did I mention FUN. Come have fun for a couple of days in Cartersville, GA - www.2023serconvention.org.

Maybe you have an interest in 3D printers. You can attend a clinic teaching you just that on *3D Printing 101* by Stefan Bartelski. Want to learn some things about soldering. Catch David Carlton's clinic on *Electrical Soldering*. A fan-



Arnold Eaves' Tri-State Holding & Affiliated Lines N-Scale

tastic clinic by Paul Spilman on *Modeling Southern Railway Murphy Branch* in the late 1970s should be a great one. Railroader

Steven Flowers will be doing a clinic on the *Coal Operations of the Paducah & Louisville Railroad*. There is absolutely a huge variety of topics. Don't miss an opportunity to have great clinics under one roof for a couple of days in the southeast organized by Tom Gordon.

OK, maybe you want to do operations. Our Scott Dunlap has organized 16 railroads



Cartersville Depot

you can sign up for during the convention. There are great model railroads all over the Piedmont Division. Have you heard about Thomas Lloyd's impressive N&W Railway? His railroad really captures the steam era of heavy coal traffic of that railroad. Magnificent railroad that is fully operational.

Maybe MMR John Travis's would be your opportunity to experience his impressive railroad. These folks have great modeling and operation experience that gives you a chance to learn things. Just have fun and escape the crazy stuff you deal with every day.

How can I forget MMR Jerry Michnewicz (Mitch) New

York Central HO Railroad. Mitch has worked hard to add



Chatsworth Depot Family Lines Caboose

lighting, animation and so much more. All I can say is AWESOME. You can learn so much from him. You will have a blast operating on his railroad.

These are just a few examples of Piedmont Division Members that are welcoming you onto their railroads as a registered guest for the convention. I just hope you really get to experience a bunch of them while at your convention. Check the website for the entire list and contact Scott Dunlap quickly to get signed up.



Steve Austin's On30 Elkhorn Iron & Timber Co.



Chris White's British Railways Waterloo 00



Well one of my favorites during any convention is self-guided layout tours. Jim Datka has scheduled a bunch all over the Piedmont Division that you will want to try to visit. These are only open to convention registered guests. There are 16 layouts on the tour, with a variety of scales as well. Please enjoy the different railroads and please be kind to all the hosts for opening their railroads. Just like you, they want to share their hard work with you to enjoy. Maybe you are into some On3, you will not want to miss Phil Steads D&RGW RR. Phil's railroad has come a long way and the scenery is just magnificent as well as the size of the railroad.

Jim Travis has been building his new Jamestown & Turtle Creek Interchange. If you like the B&O and some Pennsylvania RR then you will love the trains on this one. This is also a very large railroad that you really want to catch while on the convention.

Do you like Union Pacific? Well don't miss Conrad Mora's UP Midwest. Lots of Union Pacific. A huge railroad in his basement. Conrad's has been under construction for a while but is ready for some visitors to see all the hard work accomplished.

I could go on all the wonderful model railroads in the Piedmont Division, but you will need to go see and check on the website; www.2023serconvention.org.

So, let's talk about Thursday, September 14. There are a couple of things happening before you arrive in Cartersville. We have an Op Session happening with Tri-State Model Railroaders in Mineral Bluff, GA. Also, from 10-1 that day, Chatsworth Depot will be open to visit. Ted will be there to show you the museum and the small layouts they have. They do have a real caboose on the property as well that you will want to see. They have some very impressive items from L&N RR that you may want to check out.

When you arrive Thursday the convention registration will be set up in the Courtyard by Marriott lobby. There you will be able to get your convention check-in done starting around 2:00 pm till 7:00 pm. Friday & Saturday convention check in will be at the Clarence Brown Conference Center starting at 8:00 am.

Dr. Joe Nichols Jr Alpine Central RR - HO_n3



At 3 pm Thursday there will be a special clinic being run by modeler Craig Brotman. He will be doing a clinic on *AK Interactive Paint & Weathering Products*. Craig is a very experienced modeler with lots of techniques that you



Perry Lambs' HO UC&W

can apply to any models using their products. This will be starting at 3:00 pm in the Clarence Brown Conference Center. You will need your badges to get in. I encourage as many of you that can attend to catch this clinic. This will last till about 4:30.

Starting at 5:00 pm we will have a welcome reception for guests in the Courtyard by Marriott back lobby and courtyard. It will be a cash bar, but we will have hors d'oeuvres and music from 5:00 till 6:00. Please come by and enjoy before maybe going to dinner on Thursday.

The Clarence Brown Conference Center will be open at 8:00 am Friday and Saturday. There will be a bus leaving for registered non-rail enthusiasts to go on a tour to Gibbs Garden, Lunch and Big Door Vineyards. This trip will be on the website on a first come first served register on-line. Limited to 25 guests.

There will also be a non-rail enthusiast trip planned for Saturday morning to the Booth Museum in Downtown Cartersville along with lunch in downtown Cartersville.

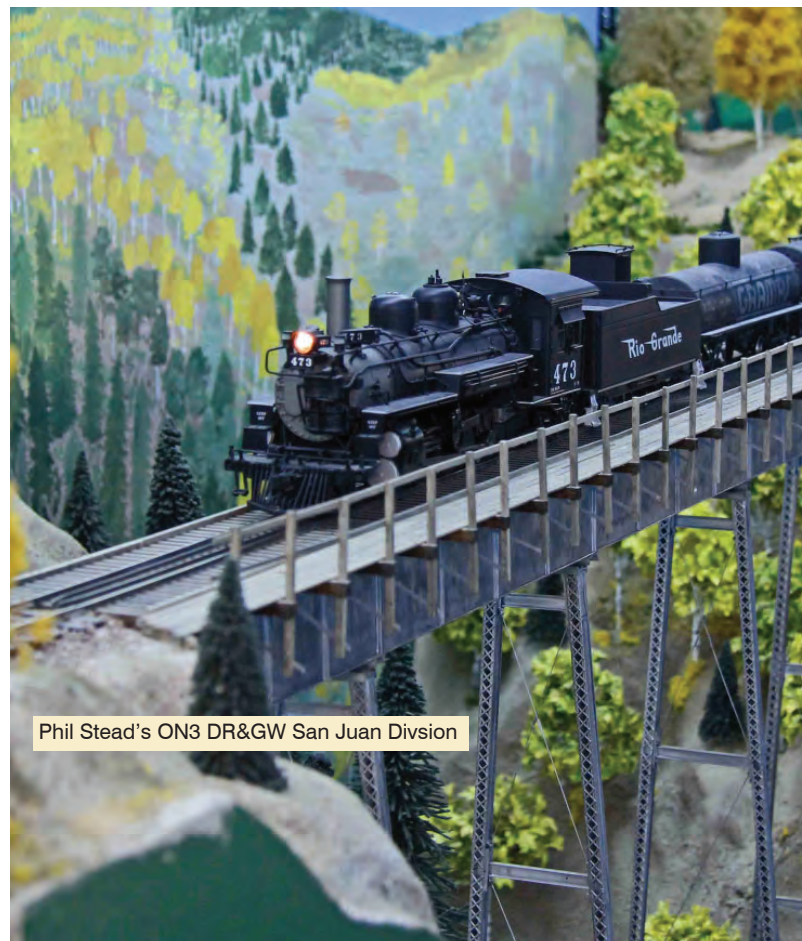
Stay tuned for the schedule and registration. We will also have a hospitality room in the Marriott Courtyard Hotel on Friday and Saturday.

We do have a Prototype Tour planned for a concrete facility along the CSX mainline north of Cartersville. There are some other great trains watching spots we may try to visit to show you the trains in the area. Please look at the website for registration of a tour.

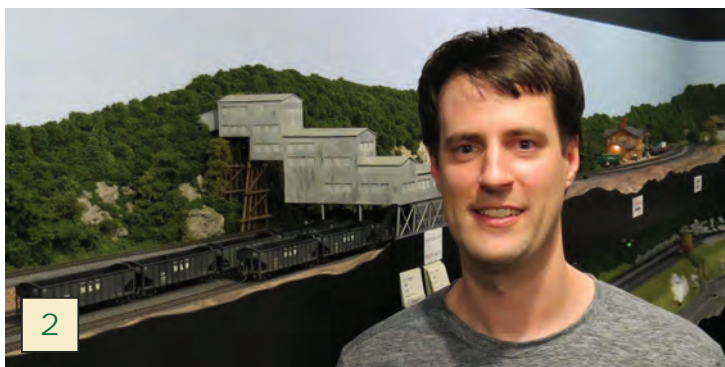
There will be a white-elephant sale going on Friday and Saturday starting around 11:30 for sales. You can drop items off to the room with your paperwork starting Thursday afternoon 2:00 till 4:30. The doors will be open for drops off Friday at 8. This will be CASH and CHECK only sales. There will be an ATM in the convention center. Again, see the website for details.

A Contest Room will be set up for models and photo entries. MMR Bill Raymond and Paul Voelker will be managing the room and judges for the event. These will be in a combined room called Stilesboro Hall II & III. Check website for details for entry sheets and time. All models will need to be picked up on Saturday.

Bring your cash for exciting prizes that will be raffled off during the convention.



Phil Stead's ON3 DR&GW San Juan Division



A few of the layouts available during the Cartersville Express 2023 SER Convention.

A - Open House
B - Operating Session

- 1) Jerry Michnewicz (A&B)
- 2) Thomas Lloyd (B)
- 3) Dr Paul Schenck (B)
- 4) Larry Romaine (A)
- 5) Chris Hayes at the Tri State Model RR club (B)



Our banquet will begin at 6:00 on Saturday with a very nice reception in the lobby of the Clarence Brown Convention Center. Your dinner ticket includes your drinks up to 4. There will be hors d'oeuvres and social time before the dinner. We will gather at 7 in Etowah Ballroom for a fun evening. Our guest speaker will be member Todd Stennis III from Mississippi. He will be speaking about AMTRAK. Todd is the Director, Government Affairs -South for AMTRAK. He is long time model railroader. Please plan to attend. There will be a wonderful dinner along with normal SER Awards and just good times to be together for a nice evening.



Kevin Stemple - HO Blue Valley RR

Officially the convention will be over at the Clarence Brown Conference Center but there are several layouts open and OPS sessions on Sunday for your return trips home to still to enjoy. A total of 6 layouts will be open on Sunday in the Piedmont Division. There are also 2 OPS sessions planned on Sunday. Larry Lammes in Griffin, GA and Roy Master-son in Chattanooga, TN. So please sign up for these and visit them if you are still planning on enjoying Sunday before returning home.

The SER 2023 Convention Team thanks you for planning to attend the convention and hope you have an enjoyable visit. We also say "Thank You" to our advertisers and supporters for the convention. Please check out your TIME-

TABLE and the website for our advertisers. Cartersville is a fantastic small town away from the hustle and bustle of Atlanta. We feel most roads are easier to get to Cartersville from most directions. We have a lot scheduled and hope, if this is your first convention, you find out why we have such a great hobby. If this is another convention for you, we hope you go away feeling excited about what you saw and learned during the convention. We also hope you get quality time with your friends and make many new ones during the couple days. This is your SER and part of why we are members of the NMRA and model trains community.

Thank You [SER](#)



Steve Austin's On30 Elkhorn Iron & Timber Co.

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SER Board of Directors Election Candidate Statements

President

Roy Masterson

My term as President of the Southeastern Region began in the Fall of 2021. Prior leadership experience in the NMRA began in 2016 when I was appointed Superintendent of what is now the Cherokee Division. I was the Convention Chairman for the 2019 SER Annual Convention held in Chattanooga, Tennessee. In 2019 I was elected as Director of the SER. In 2018 I was awarded the SER President's Award for the progress the Cherokee Division has achieved in promoting our hobby in the Southeastern Region. In 2020 I received the SER's Dave Muller Award for Individual Achievements and Volunteerism. I have earned four NMRA Achievement Awards: Association Official, Association Volunteer, Author, and Chief Dispatcher.

My model railroading Interests include being a member of the Operations Special Interest Group (OPSIG), Tennessee Valley Model Railroad, Inc., the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum, Southern Railway Historical Association, and the L&N Historical Society. My own HO scale Southern Railway – Cherokee Division is a double-deck layout designed for operations. My 230' mainline layout is set in the late 1970's and trains run from Harriman, TN to Decatur, AL with enough switching opportunities to keep crews busy during an operating session.

I especially enjoy the operations aspect of model railroading and have been fortunate to operate on a lot of outstanding layouts in and around the SER. The best thing about membership in the NMRA is all the friendships we make at conventions, train shows, model railroad clubs, and Division meetings. Here in the SER, we are fortunate to have outstanding modelers that have created beautiful layouts, structures, and model trains in a variety of scales. I plan to continue working with members in our Region as we share our love of trains and to help future leaders in our great hobby.

Treasurer

Steve Folino

I began my interest in model railroading back in the early 60's with a Lionel 027 layout that occupied most of my parents' garage. Fast forward several decades later and after having moved to Tennessee from California, I'm in the process of constructing my fifth, a full-basement-sized HO scale model railroad of the Fungus and Mungus Railroad set in 1906 in the Colorado high-country. I've just completed the trackwork for this version 5.0, having laid 171 pcs of flextrack.

Before moving from California, I was active in the Sierra Division of the PCR, serving as its treasurer. Just prior to leaving, I was the sole nominee for Superintendent and Division Director to the PCR. I also served as the 2023 Pacific Coast Region Convention chair. I was an active member of the Sacramento Model Railroad Historical Society and served as its treasurer for 3 years.

Over the past two decades I have served as treasurer of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Sacramento, CFO of the Kiwanis Foundation of Greater Sacramento, treasurer of the Natomas Chamber of Commerce, treasurer of the Institute for Supply Management Sacramento Valley Chapter, and treasurer and later president of the Professional Photographers of Sacramento Valley.

I've been a member of the NMRA since 2016 (this time around) and am active in the Smokey Mountain Division where I host the bi-monthly Zoom show and share sessions. I have also just agreed to serve as the 2025 Convention Chair.

I look forward to continuing to serve as the Southeastern Region Treasurer.

Director

Casey Bartman

Thank you for considering me to be a representative at large for the Southeastern Region of the NMRA. My quick bio is that I have a number of letters after my name. The M.D. is related to my 25+ years as an Orthopaedic Spine Surgeon. The M.S. refers to a computer science degree. From the former I have a number of neat tools to work on my layout. Secondary to the later I manage two NMRA Division's web sites and have a number of DCC and LCC projects underway.

Like many of us, my first exposure to model railroading was with a Lionel train set. In my case it was two, a cousin's old pre-war tinsplate and a Super-O set. I liked and still like my Lionel trains, but they take up a lot of room. A friend had an H.O. set and even at a young age I could see the operational possibilities that I just didn't have the space for with my Lionel layout.

I wanted an HO set, but mom got me an Atlas N-scale set. By the time I was in my twenties that had grown into a 4 by 10 twice around eastern coal road. When my sons came onto the scene, Lionel and LGB trains occupied my railroad time. Today I'm working on my two deck Ann Arbor Railroad, and a couple of T-Trak modules.

While I've been a member of the NMRA since the 1970's and attended my first National Convention then, I was more of a lone wolf secondary to my schedule. With the kids grown and retiring from surgery I have more time, and I became active in my local Division. I made a lot of new friends and learned a thing or two. When I moved to South Carolina, there was no active division for my area. A few of us got together at the SER meeting in Greenville and got the Atlantic Division up and operational.

Besides being active in the local division, I am a member of several clubs and model railroad organizations. I do believe that the backbone of the NMRA are the local organizations. Zoom has allowed that to be expanded to larger areas, but again the real strength is the local organization. It is my desire to provide support to the Divisions and

other local model railroad organizations to help grow the membership of the region and the NMRA.

I thank you very much for your support.

Director **Gary Fish**

Hi, my name is Gary Fish. I am a model railroader.

I have worn many hats as a professional volunteer for the Piedmont division of the NMRA. I have attended all events that the Piedmont division participated in to include the following.

For about the last 6 or 7 years I have been the Food and Beverage director for the division.

The last 2 years I was the Membership chair for the Piedmont and went at it with my usual flair and even with the shutdown that was being forced on us, still managed to keep the shows we participated in staffed. In order to keep division viable and alive I spent lots of time on the phone, texts and emails to keep our members participating. I also informed a lot of our older members how to use the new online technology to stay connected to the division and to the world. I sure didn't want these brothers and sisters lost home alone.

I staffed and assisted at all of our events including Golden spike train show, (where I also worked as a Liaison for the division in talking with all vendors to share and convince them to participate in our show) Trains Trains Trains kids event, Tellus Museum kids event, and most importantly staffed and handled all the volunteers and participated for the whole weekend at our Piedmont division train show at the Clarence Brown Convention center.

I heard there was a need for folks to be on the SER board and thought my energy and love for trains as well as a desire to volunteer and serve, would be a great match for my next challenge. I really enjoyed last year's convention in Greenville and am really looking forward to this year's event in Cartersville. I am also now planning a trip to Dallas for the National convention.

As a career, I am a Chiropractor and I practice In Roswell Georgia, a Suburb of Atlanta. This June I will be celebrating my 40th year in practice.

I have been in love with model trains since I was a baby in the Bronx, NY. My father's train board was hung on the wall of my brother and my bedroom. One of my treasures today are the trains that I have from my dad.

I would spend a lot of my spare time building train model's, repairing train motors, and reading about trains and how their history is American history. I was a lone wolf mainly because I never knew there was a group that met regularly of model railroaders.

That all changed when I had a patient join our practice, who was the wife of a current practice member. She was a senior Olympian and I asked him if he would go to her swim meets.

He informed me of an agreement they had. She didn't ask him to go to her swim meets and he didn't ask her to go to his train groups/events. My ears perked up. What train Groups? I had never heard of one before. He told me about his groups, and I joined him the following Wednesday Morning as a guest of the Jasper Roundhouse train Club. I was in heaven! Next a group of the guys from the Jasper were going to a monthly meeting of the Piedmont division of the NMRA. This took place at the previous meeting place in Tucker Georgia. I would often drive up to 90 minutes in traffic to get there.

It was very good timing since the Piedmont was the sponsor of the National Train Show the next year.

Currently I have a home layout that is 8 x 16 2 levels with a 5 track staging Yard under the stairs next door. I also have a 4 x 6 test track layout next to my desk that has HO, N and Tri rail for running the trains that I repair

I look forward to this next challenge in helping grow model railroading in the SER and ask for your support.

Director **Brian Ford**

My appreciation of railroads came from my grandfather, who was a brakeman for the Grand Trunk Western Railroad near Port Huron, MI. My first trainset was a bi-centennial one for Christmas that I promptly setup on the ping pong table. Then I started reading model railroading magazines and found John Armstrong's design book, which opened my eyes to what is possible.

After moving to Kansas City, I joined NMRA in 2001 to find other model railroaders and to learn more. A regular operating group invited me to join and I also began participating in regional and national NMRA conventions. After moving to Chattanooga in 2010, I reached out through NMRA to find other model railroaders. I really enjoy layout design, prototype research, and operations, and am a regular operator for several layouts in Tennessee and Atlanta.

I am also a member of Chattanooga Modular Modelers, Tennessee Valley Model Railroaders Inc (new layout under construction at the TVRM), and NMRA-OpSIG (of course!). After serving on the Cherokee Division Board for several years, I was elected Asst Superintendent in 2021 and Superintendent in 2023.

I was elected SER Director in 2020 and have worked on several tasks and committees. I also served on the 2019 SER Convention Committee and planned/executed several activities for that very successful convention.

I have enjoyed helping model railroad friends design extensions of their railroads. In my spare time I am building an HO representation of mid-1990's BN in the Springfield MO area on the old Frisco, called the BN Monett Sub. My railroad is funded by full-time employment at TVA, where I oversee fire protection upgrades and testing for our fleet of coal/gas/hydro power plants. Even now I still go out of

my way for a little railfanning, which has been further enabled by access to TVA's coal unit trains, switcher locomotives, and other rail deliveries (such as ammonia, pebble lime, and transformers). Family includes my musical wife of 32 years (Ronda) and our American Eskimo pup (Lily).

In this hobby I have enjoyed the comradery of the model railroad community, the creative variety of layout builders, and the challenge of moving model railroad traffic as the layout owner intended. As an engineer, I am always drawn to figuring out how something works and how can it be improved, whether it's a widget or a process. I want to continue serving the SER and ask for your vote as Director.

Director

Pat Taylor

My name is Patrick "Pat" Taylor. I am 73 years old, am a disabled veteran, been married for forty-six years to my wife Connie and have two adult children and six grandkids. I retired in 2009 from PLT & Associates as President and CEO which operated Pat Taylor Photography & Digital Imaging, To The Point Advertising and First Impressive Wear. FIW specializes in embroidering, silk screening, team uniforms and spirit wear for all our area schools. As a professional photographer I served the local schools for over thirty-two years.

I have been in model railroading for more than four decades and in the 1980s I operated a hobby shop in Eaton, Ohio.

Currently I am an active member with Miami Valley Modular Railway, centered in Dayton, Ohio for the past sixteen years. When working with them I took on the role of Marketing Director when Division 3 hosted their regional

convention. In order to be a member with the MVMR you are required to be an NMRA member as they have 100% participation. I also built two modulars which have been featured at their exhibits and on local television stations. With them I have also attended five NMRA national conventions and at four of those events we displayed our massive modular setup.

I am also a member of the Crossville Model Railroad Club where I served as President for six years. I currently serve on the marketing committee and in that position, I am responsible for creating and designing all our promotional material and signage. I have helped organize all our Train Shows, Swap Meets and Educational Weekend programs. I served as Assistant Superintendent of Division 16 of the SER for four years.

I would be interested in a Directors position as I feel I could contribute to promoting the hobby and attracting younger members. Like most organizations these days, we all struggle with attracting members especially those from the young family demographic category. I feel we, the NMRA, make a concerted effort targeting those families and to draw them to model railroading. I believe we need to impress on the parents that this is a family-based hobby. Let them know how it promotes quality time with their children and gets kids off the electronics for a more hands-on experience. Conducting local "How to Build Your Railroad" with two or three weekend or evening classes, introducing them to the basics and even directing and assisting them in building a small layout. Anything we can do to set the Model Railroad "hook".

I would appreciate your consideration for placement on the ballot for one of the Directors positions.

Southeastern Regions 2023 Board of Directors Election

Voting is open in the 2023 SER Board of Directors Election.

Positions on the 2023 ballot are President, Treasurer, and Director (2 positions). You may vote using the paper ballot in this edition of *The SouthErneR* or online beginning August 18, 2023.

To vote, you must be a member in good standing as listed on the June 2023 NMRA roster and have a membership type that allows voting. Life, Regular, Associate, Sustaining, and Student members may vote. Family members and Rail Pass members may not.

How to Vote

Vote Using the Paper Ballot

To vote by paper ballot, mark your selections on the ballot. Your ballot must be signed. Include your name and NMRA member number or your ballot will not be counted. Remove the ballot from *The SouthErneR* and mail. A scanned copy of the ballot will be accepted. ***Your ballot must be postmarked by September 2, 2023.***

Vote Online

Online voting opens August 18, 2023. If you have an email address on file with the NMRA, a ballot will be emailed to you. Look for an email with the subject line:

SER 2023 Board of Directors Election

Complete the ballot and submit your choices. ***Online voting closes September 2, 2023.***

If you have questions or would like assistance, please email rvcoblenmra@gmail.com.

Thank you for voting and thank you for being a member.

Official Ballot SER 2023 Board of Directors Election

(I) indicates incumbent

President (Vote for One)	
Roy Masterson (I)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Write-in	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer (Vote for One)	
Steve Folino (I)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Write-in	<input type="checkbox"/>

MUST BE COMPLETED
Name
Signature
NMRA #

Director At-Large (Vote for no more than Two)	
Casey Bartman	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gary Fish	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brian Ford (I)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pat Taylor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Write-in	<input type="checkbox"/>
Write-in	<input type="checkbox"/>

Remove the ballot from *The SouthErneR* and mail. A scanned copy of the ballot will be accepted.

Mail your completed ballot to:

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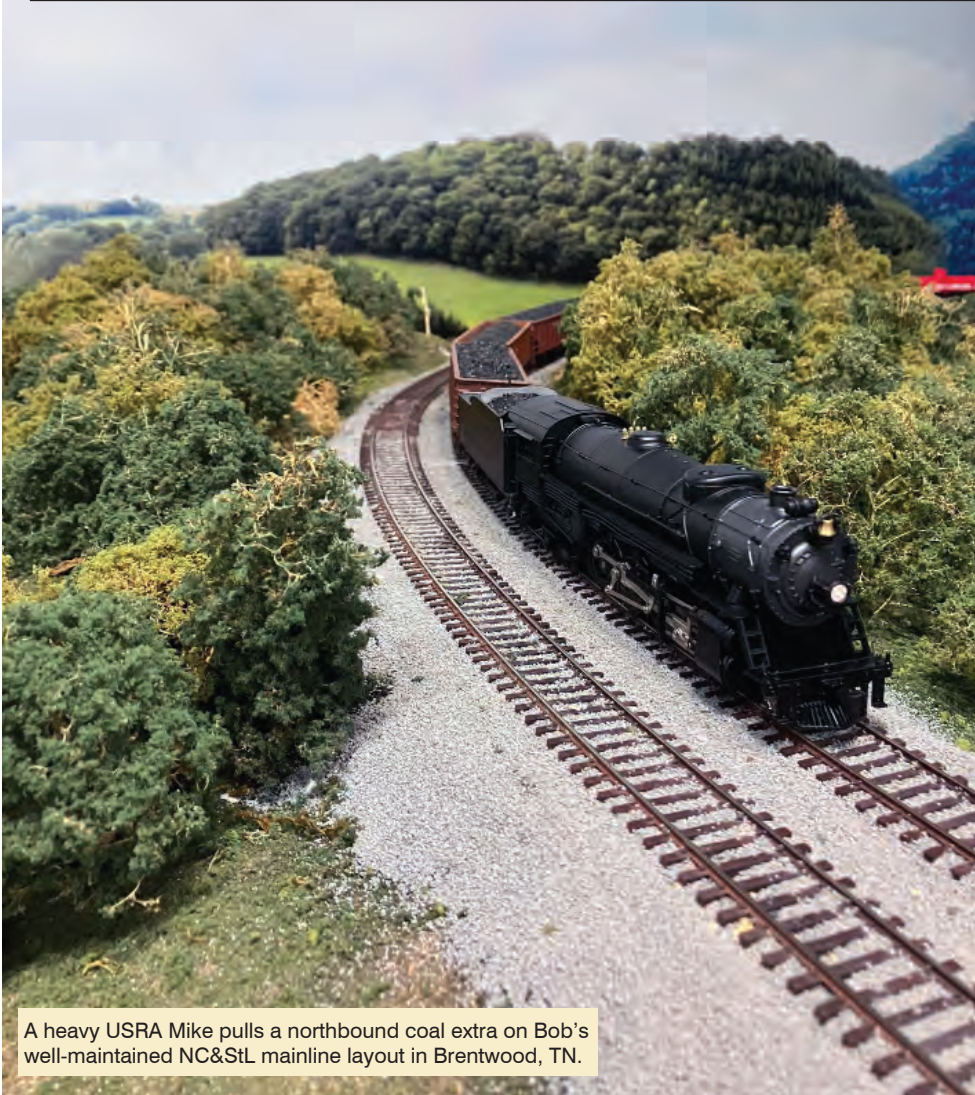
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Bob Moody's HO scale NC&StL

photos by Eric Hansmann



A heavy USRA Mike pulls a northbound coal extra on Bob's well-maintained NC&StL mainline layout in Brentwood, TN.



A northbound L&N freight approaches Decherd, TN

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A northbound L&N freight approaches Stevenson, AL.

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New Holland Division

Bill Orman
Superintendent

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Soddy Daisy, TN 37379 wtorman@epbf.com

Tom Banks
General Manager



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Mark McAllister
Superintendent
Southern Division



Southeastern Region Division News



MID-SOUTH



Division 1 - Mid-South

Dave Carlton ~ dpcarlton59@gmail.com

Mid South Division has continued throughout the spring 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 of 35 trains per day are available at www.youtube.com/embed/zvtZVDBPupI;f.

Community outreach has the division involved with commercial properties with model trains in the windows; to automate Idle-Operate-Rest-Idle engaged by hand palm detection through the commercial-grade glass.

Our clinic program has continued with Bill Eberle's vintage 1960's videos (converted from film) of CB&Q 4960 in all its glory. The restored Mikado is now pulling for the Grand Canyon Railway.

We investigated the material-loss laser printing equipments and media led by Jim Pruitt. Using stainless steel, we examined an HO scale grocery cart. The detail is amazing, being folded and assembled in a few pieces.

Andy Smith demonstrated to members the design and construction of an Arduino DCC++EX system with a Motor Shield and Wi-Fi Shield. Engines were programmed and run. A two-ampere system for under \$60.00; 10-amp system for under \$80.00. The open-source systems handles JMRI, smart-phone throttles, and all WiThrottle protocol devices.

With the much-increased interest in the various new technologies, Peter Nolan, professional N-scale ship modeler led the members through software to move from 2D view drawings to 3D using various 2D CADs and TinkerCAD 3D. All file types can be generated for FDM, SLA, MSLA, DLP, SLS, DMLS, SLM, EMB among others.

Our WebMaster, 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 – Clinics: Make your own resistor wheelsets, use Arduino block occupancy sensors, and more 2D to 3D.

Visit our division at www.midsouthnmra.org/MidSouth.php.

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& Calendar at:

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Division 5 - Piedmont

Perry Lamb ~ perry_lamb@mindspring.com

Greetings and welcome to Summer! Summer, like Winter, is a great time for Model Railroading! It's way hot outside, the basement, nice and cool, is calling, there are projects just waiting on completion and, unless you love to do things like kayaking, being cool, in the Summer, is awesome! Yeah, I know, I have to cut the grass and mulch the planting beds. Sigh...

In any event, the Summer, here in the Piedmont Division, is shaping up to be fun and a bit more relaxing for us, as we prepare to host the Southeastern Region Convention, in September! From there, we'll head into our very busy Fall with our annual Piedmont Pilgrimage! With those highlights out of the way, on with the report.

Our website continues to develop. We are revising our process for adding events to the website. The process is being simplified and a couple more changes are being made so it's easier to identify events that are for members only. This includes things like most of our Train 'N Camps and our monthly, member-only, open houses. It is nice that, with the new hosting software, we can simply make changes without having to redo a ton of coding, or worse, not being able to make these changes at all. As the Region works on its own website rebuild, hopefully your team will incorporate similar features.

In June, we will have a clinic that I think will be interesting, especially if you are working towards the Rolling Stock AP Certificate. Harvey George will present the topic Scratch building the SAL B3 Boxcar. Scratch building cars is something that has to happen with this AP Certificate, and whether or not you model the Seaboard Air Lines, learning more about Scratch building cars is always a good thing. You never know when you'll find just the technique you need to help you get your projects done. In my own case, I need to complete this certificate, it will be my 7th, for my MMR. This should be interesting.

In July, we will resume an activity that has been very popular in the past. Our monthly meeting will not feature a clinic, but will, instead, feature a pizza party and swap meet. Members can bring a small number of items, of any type or variety, to sell or trade, during the meeting. The Division will be supplying the pizza and beverages, all the members need do is come and enjoy. One of the things that

makes this event so popular, besides the great deals, is the chance to just enjoy the fellowship of our great hobby. Each time we've done this in the past, the entire time is filled with great conversation, lots of stories, and a great deal of bargaining. I've bought some very cool things for my railroad at previous pizza nights. I'm looking forward to our next one and seeing what people have brought. Because there will be no clinic, this meeting will not be presented via Webex.

In August, we will return to our clinic format. Jim Davis, a really cool guy and a real railroad employee, will be talking about using a Cricket Machine for modeling. This sounds interesting to me as I'm interested in what it can do to help with my own model railroad. As I understand it, a Cricket Machine can be used to cut things like styrene plastic to form walls and such. This would be awesome for me as I'm planning an area on my own railroad that will feature mostly older brick structures with some track snaking through them. Being able to design and construct large brick structures that could then have the outsides suitably detailed would be a huge time and cost saver. I am intrigued.

The big event in September will, of course, be the Region Convention in Cartersville at the Clarence Brown Convention Center. If you have not seen this place at one of our Model Train Shows, you are in for a treat. The place is amazing and the staff there is absolutely a joy to work with. In any event, it really sounds like this is going to be a great convention. Walt Liles and his team are working away to produce a convention that should be awesome. Just the banquet alone sounds like fun, but with Ops sessions, clinics, outside tours, and the chance to just gather, meet, and talk, I'm really looking forward to September! As a reminder, if you are not registered, please do so. We'd love to see you and there are certain fixed costs that registration does pay for. Yes, our division will have a September meeting, but I don't know what our clinic topic will be yet. I suspect something interesting.

I think I've taken enough time from work and the brass flat car I'm adding weathering to. I really hope you enjoy your Summer and I really look forward to seeing many of you in Cartersville in September.

Until next time, Engage! **SER**

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Division 7 - Palmetto

Roger Liska ~ rigger@clemson.edu

The Division had a great meeting on March 18 in Greenville, SC. About 40 members attended the day's events. The morning began with the presentation by the popular models, popular photos and tip/techniques contestants. This was followed by a short talk by Dennis Snyder on Writing Articles for NMRA and SER magazines. Rob Seel then presented a clinic entitled "Capturing the Blue Comet: Transforming Production Models toward the Prototype." Rob demonstrated how, using various materials and methods, he converted a commercially available model of a steam locomotive to the Blue Comet – needing a lot of research and patience.

The next clinic – "LED's for your Model Railroad" – was conducted by Jack Varadi and Markus Weller. Using a combination of illustrations, some great short videos and hands-on exhibits, Jack first provided all of the attendees with a review of some basic electrical principles that help to better understand the difference between incandescent and LED lighting and their applications. Marcus followed by presenting different types and forms of LED lights with numerous possible applications using an innovative testing board he developed just for the clinic. At breaks, attendees had the opportunity to work with the testing board to learn more about LEDs. Division members were sent out a list of resources provided by Jack and Markus concerning LED lighting – this is a very informative document especially for those just getting into LED applications. A big THANK YOU goes out to Dennis, Rob, Jack and Markus for their well-received presentations.

After conducting some Division business, the winners of the various contests were announced by Chuck Jenkins. CONGRATULATIONS to the following members and a heartfelt THANKS to Chuck for coordinating these contests and the layout visits.

Popular Model Contest – First place Rob Seel
second place Sandy Eustis

Popular Photo Contest – Rob Seel

Tips/Techniques – Dennis Snyder

During the afternoon Markus Weller and Scott Lister hosted visits to their layouts. Both were visited by many of the members and feedback I have received was nothing but positive. JOB WELL DONE to Markus and Scott. Pictures of the various Division meeting activities are posted on our website at www.palmettodiv.org – I encourage you to take a few minutes to view them and thank Rob Seel and Steve Todd for taking them.

The following are the major items discussed during the business portion of the March Division meeting:

Superintendent's Report – Membership in SER over the past year has increased 2.3%. The Palmetto Division is the second largest one in SER with 121 members. The Piedmont Division is the largest with 330 members. The Pal-

metto Division participated in the February Easley Train Show. It had a staffed exhibit and the Division's T-TRAK HO scale layout was in operation. A big THANKS goes out to all who helped staff the exhibit and especially to Dave Winans for his leadership and team of Division members in having the layout at the show and in operation. The layout served and will continue to bring a lot of attention to our Division.

Treasurer's Report – Myron Pensyl provided a summary of revenues and expenses to date which showed the division in good financial standing. He also requested a division member to serve as an auditor of the financial statements and Ken Majchrzak volunteered – THANKS Myron and Ken.

Free Military Membership Update – Ken reported on new free military NMRA memberships over the past few months. This is a great opportunity for those currently or retired from the military and all of our members are encouraged to reach out to those they know who fall into this category and encourage them to join.

What's On Your Work Bench Update – Jack Varadi reviewed the online session held this past January which was well attended. He indicated the next one is in the planning stages. Jack and Steve Todd were THANKED for their leadership in this endeavor.

In an effort to offer learning opportunities to our members other than at the Division meetings, the Board of Directors are planning other activities and events during the year, one of which are some hands-on clinics conducted by Palmetto members. The first two clinics being planned are one on DCC-EX (Arduino) and the other on Weathering Freight Cars. Interested attendees at the Division meeting placed their names and email addresses on a list of one or both of the clinics. Currently, there are 14 members interested in attending the Arduino clinic and 11 the weathering clinic. Steve Todd volunteered to conduct the Arduino clinic and the Division is seeking a member or members to conduct the clinic on freight car weathering. The specific dates and times the clinics will be conducted are currently being established and the interested individuals will be so notified. It was also suggested to conduct a clinic on LED lighting.

The summer division meeting has been set for June 10 in Columbia. AMROC will be hosting us. The meeting will be from 9 am – 12 noon including two interesting clinics followed by a group lunch and afternoon layout tours. The morning meeting will be held at 1800 Lincoln St, Columbia SC 29201. There is a parking garage next door on Lincoln St and parking is free on Saturday. The Palmetto Division Board will be having a meeting to discuss the upcoming summer meeting along with other items of business.

It has been decided to begin to encourage interested division members to attend and participate in the board meetings as a way to build future leadership. In addition, the division has communicated with the superintendents of adjacent divisions to explore opportunities to conduct joint

activities and events. Positive responses were received from the following divisions: Atlantic, Central Savannah River, Piedmont, Carolina Mountain and Carolina Southern.

The Officers and Board Members for 2023 are as follows:

Superintendent – Roger Liska
rigger@clemson.edu

Assistant Superintendent – Chuck Jenkins
cwj577986@msn.com

Secretary/Webmaster – Steve Todd
mstevetodd@gmail.com

Treasurer – Myron Pensyl
mypensyl@hotmail.com

Board Member-At-Large – Dave Winans
dwinans1147@gmail.com

Achievement Program (AP) Chairman
Howard Garner
cascaderail@bellsouth.net

Columbia Area Event Coordinator
Rich Lehman
rlhman777@yahoo.com **SER**

Division 8 - Atlantic

Rick Fulkerson ~ rick@mountaingoatbroadcast.com

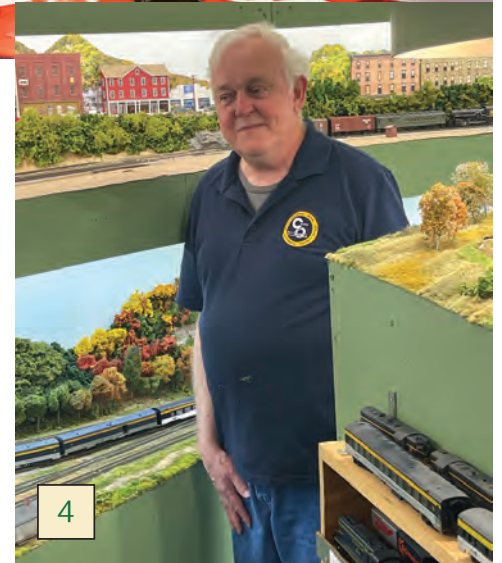
This was a very busy quarter for our division with our winter meet being held in the Savannah area in March followed by our spring meet in Myrtle Beach in April.

The Savannah meet was the largest attendance to date in our division. We met in Lovezolla's Pizza & Sub, excellent food, with 4 clinics and two private layouts to visit afterward. One member came with a DCC issue and was able to meet another member who is more knowledgeable. The essence of the hobby!

The Myrtle Beach meet was located at the Horry County library with two clinics and two layouts to visit afterward. All inspiring.

Our division is becoming more active, and more members are meeting one another. Excellent promotion of the hobby.

We are excited about our next meeting in the Charleston area in July. **SER**



1. Tom Sullivan is giving a clinic on the Sandy Lake & Rangely railroad he models in On30.
2. The Mt Rushmore photo is on Rich Hyde's G scale attic layout. He had an artist friend sculpt Rich so he could add it to Mt Rushmore.
3. Chalk Clinic is myself giving a clinic having Jackson Fluech, one of our student members, show how easy it is to use chalks.
4. Rick Gartrell is standing in front of Anstead on his C&O Hawks Nest subdivision layout.

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

The Bluff City was busy these last couple of months with division meetings and our Spring Open House with our local model railroad clubs, here in Memphis, TN.

We had quite a few guests roll in and visit our layouts. [SER](#)



CUMBERLAND DIVISION

Southeastern Region NMRA

11

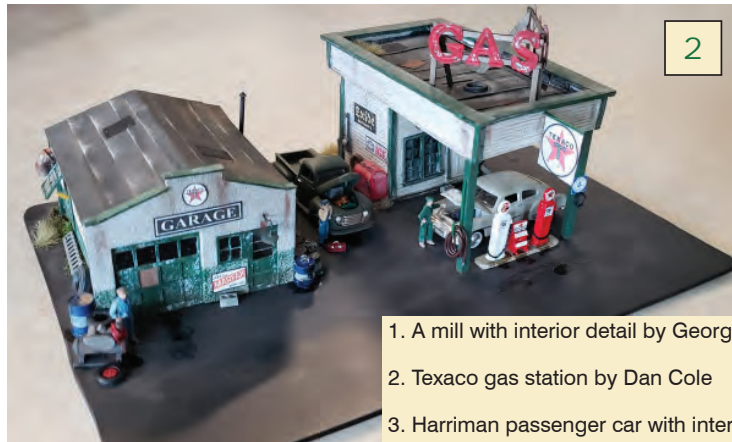
Division 11 - Cumberland
Jim Horton ~ jimhortonjd@gmail.com

The Cumberland Division continues to hold monthly meetings on the second Saturday of each month, alternating between online and in person. We are moving our in-person meetings around so that more members can have a better opportunity to attend.

Our May meeting was held at the Madison branch of the Nashville library on the north side of the city with twelve members attending. In addition to the camaraderie, several members brought models that they have worked on, and we had a lively discussion of their modeling techniques. [SER](#)



1



2



3

1. A mill with interior detail by George Gilbert^{MMR}

2. Texaco gas station by Dan Cole

3. Harriman passenger car with interior detail by Mark Stone

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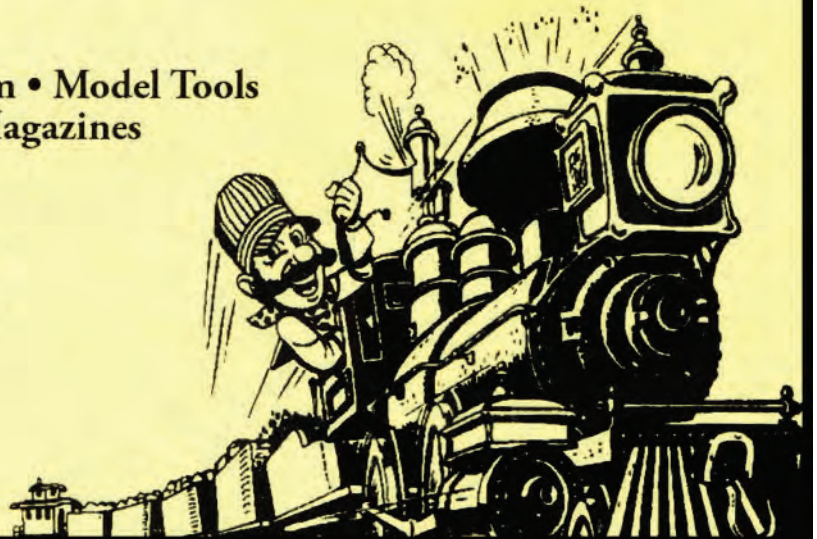
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Division 13 - Cherokee

Brian Ford ~ briantford@aol.com

The Cherokee Division met on April 15 in Soddy-Daisy, TN to see a detailed presentation about the upcoming 2023 SER Convention. Thanks to Walt Liles for traveling up here to speak with us and answer questions from the 22 attendees.

After the meeting, most of us went to the home layouts of Bill Orman (photos below) and Willy Clonts to see all the fantastic progress since our last tour in 2015. Willy's layout has doubled in size and Bill has added an upper branch line with a power plant. Some of us have gradually seen Bill's layout change since we have been operating there periodically over the last seven years.

Additionally, in April we held our annual election for half of the officer positions; each of these members have been elected for a two year term:

Superintendent - Brian Ford
Secretary - Chuck Higdon
Director - Ed Tougaw
Director - Nick Giordano

The remainder officer positions will be up for election next spring. A special thanks to Rick Coble and Steve Lamb for executing our election.

The Chattanooga Modular Modeler (CMM) club participated in the annual train event at the Niota, TN depot on April 29-30 with the modular HO layout. The CMM has been a regular participant at Niota since at least 2018. The CMM also celebrated its 10th year anniversary at the annual meeting on May 20 held at the Shack, with a lot of food, a train sale and general comradery. This club started in 2013 with several founding members, a handful of HO modules and no home, and now has over 30 members, enough member modules for good-sized HO and N scale lay-outs, holds weekly meetings and participates every year in several events at depots and railroad days. [SER](#)



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Division 15 - Carolina Mountain

Paul Spilman - paul@spilman.me

The Carolina Mountain Division is working hard to get the 2026 SER Convention rolling. We

have formed the Convention Committee and are in talks with our final two choices of venues. Our website is live at www.2026serconvention.org as well as our Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/ser2026 - be sure to "Like or Follow" to stay up to date on the convention, as well as sign up for email updates on the website. We expect to have details on dates and location soon.

Due to issues with the county having to approve every meeting, it appears we have lost access to the Fletcher Library. Our next meeting should be held on July 15 location and time TBA, though this may change based on availability. Please watch for updates via email or on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/CarolinaMountainDiv - if you are not receiving email updates, please email me at paul@spilman.me so I can get you on the list.

As mentioned in the Winter 2022 Southerner, the division recently enhanced our setup at the local train shows. With new signs and displays, we are trying to reach out to more of the local model railroading community that may not be aware of the NMRA. Our first show with the new setup was in Fall 2022 and we counted that as a trial run that worked out very well.

We recently attended the spring train show and were able to further refine our setup and make a few improvements. We continued to learn how to reach out to attendees and had a great reception. After talking with NMRA Marketing Consultant Christina Zambri, we added some new features such as having free candy on the table, an email signup sheet and trying to stay in front of the tables instead of behind them. We were also able to receive plenty of back issue model railroading magazines for handout. If your division is looking to draw more attention at shows, contacting Christina through the NMRA website is a great resource.

We are also continuing to improve based on ideas and feedback. We now plan on including printed and laminated copies of the NMRA Standards such as car weights and coupler heights so we can help educate attendees who utilize the test track. We are also adding additional tools such as a scale and a N scale coupler height gauge. We will also be adding additional signage to highlight the test track - many attendees were not aware it was free for them to use.

Once we finalize the 2026 Convention dates and location, we will also be adding a large sign advertising it, with email sign up for the Convention specifically. [SER](#)



Division Superintendent Paul Spilman (L), receives the Volunteer Achievement Program Certificate from Division AP Chair Ben Bartlett (R).



Updated train show setup

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.org
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 additional 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 - Division 9

OFRR 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-eprc.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
 Nick Giordano, 856-304-9196; nickgiordano100@gmail.com; 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.tenentrak.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
wjones845@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@gulfel.com
CATT - Coastal Alabama T-TRAK, Bruce Arbo, 228-669-6705
coastalalabamatrak@gmail.com; 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 Division - 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.rmrc.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.;
www.facebook.com/hubcityrrmuseum
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
arn_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.crossvilletrain.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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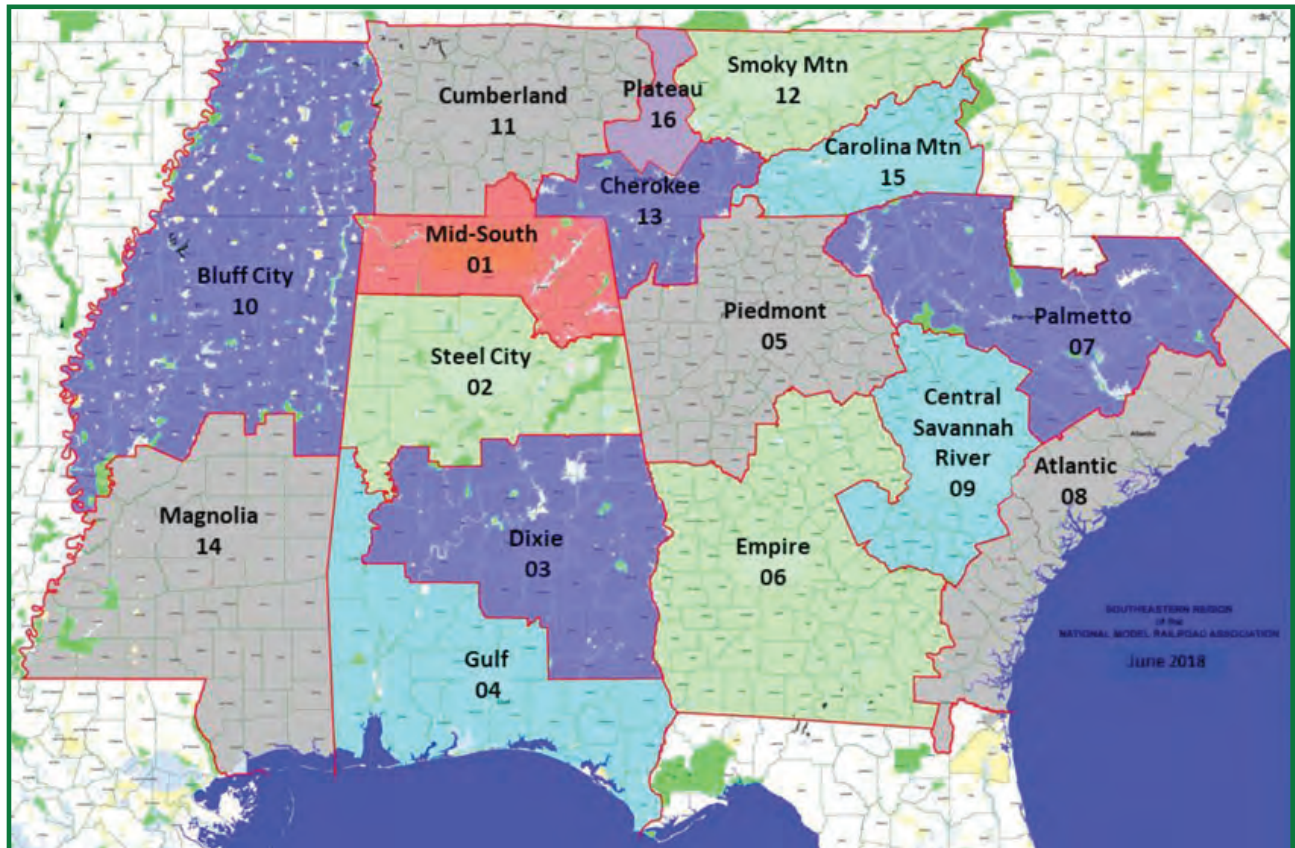
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Amtrak Acela at Perryville, MD on 3/20/2023.
Photo by Doug Scott