



The SOUTHERNER



Volume 44, Number 3 - www.ser-nmra.org - Summer 2003

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



First Place
Structures Off-Line
Rob Love

On Display in the
Model Room
Snow Plow / Flanger



On Display in the Model Room

Third Place
Structures On-Line
Scott Matherly



Third Place
Freight Cars
Andy Lester

IN THIS ISSUE:

- TENNESSEE BOUND CONVENTION
- CONVENTION CONTEST RESULTS
- PROFILE OF RON GOUGH - MMR #321

First Place - Freight Cars - Robert Swieder



**Scratch-built Rail Grinder
Built by Dean Belowich**

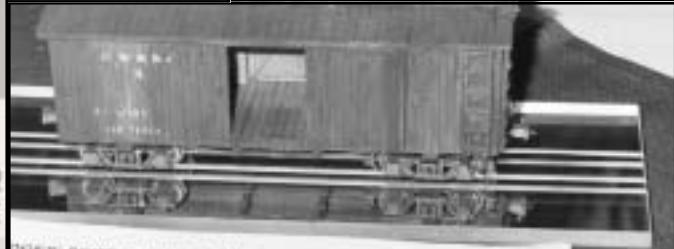


Second Place - Freight Cars - Robert Swieder



Tennessee Bound 2003

**Models Displayed
in the Model Room**





The

SOUTHERNER



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

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The SouthErneR is mailed to all members of the Southeastern Region who have paid their membership dues of \$10.00 annually. Material for publication is welcomed! Please send materials to the proper Assistant Editor.

All submissions become the property of the SouthErneR unless otherwise contracted. Please do not send previously printed materials.

Volume 44, Number 3

WAYBILL



Summer—2003

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E-SouthErneR: The web page for the **E-SouthErneR** is temporarily off-line but will return at a future date. We apologize for the inconvenience.

On The Front Cover: The Model Contest had a fine (if somewhat smaller than last year) turnout and many display only models were present as well. Both the outside and inside of the cover show the many models present and (where known by me) what awards were earned by those models entered into the contest. My apologies to those whose models aren't captioned as having won something if indeed they did as in those cases where I wasn't sure who'd won what I didn't caption them. PVV

| Page | Advertising Rates Number of Issues | | | | Advertising: All rates are for camera-ready artwork. Text-only ads can be typeset by the editor. Fees for artwork are quoted on a per item basis. Submit sketches to the Assistant Editor of Advertising for a quotation. Include the company name, address and a day-time phone number, along with and pictures or artwork you submit. All ads must be prepaid before publication. |
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| Full | \$120 | \$200 | \$260 | \$300 | |
| 7/8 | \$105 | \$175 | \$230 | \$265 | |
| 3/4 | \$ 90 | \$150 | \$200 | \$225 | |
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| 1/4 | \$ 30 | \$ 50 | \$ 65 | \$ 75 | |
| 1/8 | \$ 15 | \$ 25 | \$ 33 | \$ 40 | |
| 1/12 | \$ 10 | \$ 17 | \$ 22 | \$ 25 | |
| Retailer's Listing: \$20 for 4 issues Pike Registry : \$16 for 4 issues Classified Ad : \$5 per issue | | | | | |



Profile of Ron Gough

Autobiography by Ron Gough

It all started as a kid running down to the station for the scheduled stop of the Milwaukee Road Hiawatha steam passenger train in Columbus, WI., a town, at the time, with a population of around 2,000. And the excitement when Dad announced a trip on the train to visit relatives in South Dakota but in no more than 2 miles out of town, finding myself in the restroom with motion sickness and exactly the same thing happened again on the return trip home.

Then Dad built a Lionel layout complete with a concrete (!) hard shell and remembering the day he had to take a sledge hammer to it as we were moving to Delavan, WI, a town with a seldom used branch line.

The evolution of diesel power dispelled a great deal of interest for many years but a desire to model the steam era slowing began to emerge and I started building La Belle wood kits with the intention of using the finished models on a layout to be built someday.

In 1995, the reality of doing some serious modeling and constructing a layout

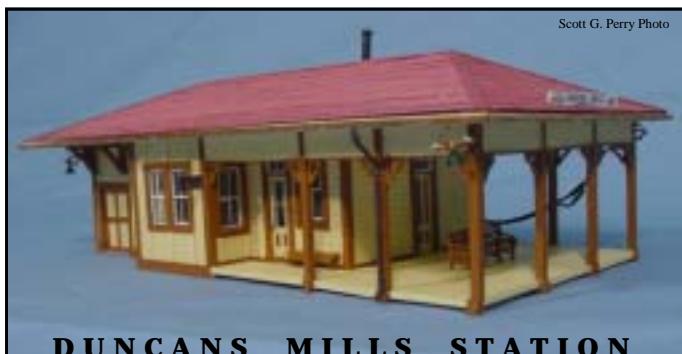
| | |
|--|------------------------|
| RON GOUGH <i>Land of Dixie Line</i> | |
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| NATIONAL SOUTHERN RAILROAD CO. | |
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began to formulate and the process began in earnest by joining the NMRA, attending the Crossroads Atlanta NMRA Convention and shortly thereafter, getting actively involved in the Atlanta Piedmont Division, the Southern Region (SER) and to a point, the NMRA.

Finally, after all the plotting and planning plus the completion of the "honey-do-list" and the re-configuration of the basement, the home (layout) of the National Southern Railroad (NSoRR) was started. Figuring as long as I'm going to do this thing, it might as well conform to NMRA standards. As a result, becoming involved in the

Achievement Program seemed to be a logical extension as the means to learn and also to do things right the first time.

Highlights while earning AP Certificates, culminating with the MMR award, includes being awarded my first Merit Award in an NMRA Contest on Nov. of 1996. Entering a 2-building farm yard display in my first national contest at the 1997 Madison Convention only to find out Merit Awards are not awarded for displays (resolved by entering each building as a separate structure at a Division Contest). Being the *Bulletin* NMRA National Contest Reporter at the 1998 Kansas City



Convention. Earning back-to-back First Place awards in the structures off-line category in the National contests in Kansas City (1998) and St. Paul (1999). Becoming a National clinician at the St. Paul Convention, and by sweeping the 2002 Division, Region and the National contests with First Place Awards for the Duncans Mills depot model in the structures on-line category.

What great fun!

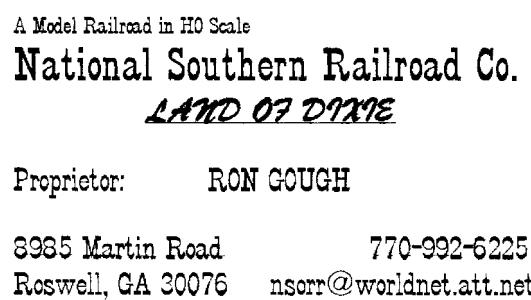
Upon applying for MMR, I specifically asked Pat Harriman MMR, National AP Chair, Dean Belowich MMR, SER AP Chair and Dr. Joe Nichols, Sr. MMR, the Piedmont Division Chair to have the Certificate sent to Dr. Joe, Sr. as I wanted the presentation to be made at a Piedmont Division meeting. The rationale was simply the Division members are all my friends and the ones who provided the encouragement and motivation to help achieve the award.

Does having earned the distinction of being named a Master Model Railroader mean I know everything about model railroading.... of course not; I wish I did! What was accomplished was becoming a pretty proficient modeler by adhering to the standards as established by the NMRA and by fulfilling the requirements of the Achievement Program.

Does having earned the distinction of being named a Master Model Railroader mean I know everything about model railroading... of course not; I wish I did!

However, I continue to learn more about this hobby everyday from my NMRA friends, SER friends and especially from the folks of the Piedmont Division. In turn, I have been able to help and will continue to help fellow modelers through conducting scratch building clinics and by presenting my newest clinic; "NMRA Contests from a participants point of view."

In addition, by achieving the status of MMR, hopefully, others will follow my example and be motivated to become better modelers by getting involved in the Achievement Program and especially the NMRA model contests.



Lastly, with the passing of my wife, model railroading is my life and as a result, being distinguished as a Master Model Railroader is very, very special.



From the Dinning Car

By Fred Ball

In the days before microwaves' electric ovens and other modern kitchen tools the dinning car chef had to rely on coal fired ovens and stoves cramped quarters with three to four other people working in the tiny cramped space called the dinning car kitchen. From this hot often smelly (body odor) place he would turn out some of the best food found anywhere. It would be served by men in white coats and white aprons to the guests sitting in the section of the railroad dinning car called the restaurant. Very few accidents took place as the train sped around curves and into and out of tunnels, across bad track and good they walked up and down the narrow aisle passing each other with a dance step that would make Fred and Ginger jealous. They served your food with the same degree of elegance reserved for the rich and famous in the finest hotels. Here are some recipes for you to try from appetizer to dessert.

Appetizer

Salmon Quesadillas

8 oz. smoked salmon
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 tsp. dried dill
1/2 tsp. pepper
4 flour tortillas
2 cups Monterey Jack cheese
1 Tbsp. oil

Sauté garlic, salmon, dill and pepper in olive oil. Spread mixture over 1/2 of each flour tortilla and sprinkle with cheese. Fold tortillas over and return to skillet to brown on both sides and to melt cheese. Slice into quarters and serve with salsa.

Main Course

Beef Tenderloin with Mushroom Wine Sauce

2 - 2-pound beef tenderloin fillets
2 cups beef broth
2 cups fresh mushrooms, sliced
3/4 cup dry red wine
3 cloves garlic, minced
1/3 cups shallots, minced
1/2 tsp. dry mustard
2 Tbsp. flour
1/4 cup butter
Salt and pepper to taste

Melt butter in a large saucepan, add flour and garlic and stir until browned. Add beef broth, mushrooms, shallots, dry mustard, dry red wine and salt and pepper, allow to simmer for 10-15 minutes. Place tenderloins in broth and simmer an additional 20 minutes or until beef is cooked to your taste. Serve over rice or with potatoes and baste with broth.

Oriental Green Beans

1 pound fresh green beans
2 Tbsp. butter
1/4 cup soy sauce
1 tsp. fresh ginger, grated
1 Tbsp. sesame seeds, toasted
Salt and pepper

Cook green beans in a steamer until crisp-tender. Place cooked beans in a bowl and add butter, soy sauce, salt and pepper and sesame seeds, stir well.

Dessert

Mini Cherry Cheesecakes

24 vanilla wafers
2 - 8 oz. packages cream cheese, softened
1 egg
8 oz. sour cream
1/3 cup sugar
1 tsp. almond extract
2 tsp. vanilla extract
1 can cherry pie filling
24 baking cups

Place 1 vanilla wafer at the bottom of each baking cup. Combine cream cheese, sour cream, sugar, egg, almond and vanilla extracts in a large bowl and beat until smooth. Pour mixture into baking cups 2/3 full. Bake for 20-25 minutes.

Allow to cool, and place 1 Tbsp. pie filling on each mini cheesecake.

I hope you enjoy your meal as the dinning car rumbles through the country side and you speed toward your final destination.



TALLULAH GORGE RAILROAD

While I was preparing the last issue of the *SouthErneR* I was also working on this project. The spring issue went to press on the day before the Piedmont Division's train show on March 8 & 9, 2003. The railroad was very incomplete the weekend before the show and a very intense work schedule ensued. Unfortunately, my real employers denied my end-of-



ABOVE: Overhead view of the **Tallulah Gorge Railroad** N-Scale layout that the Piedmont Division raffled off at their March 2003 Train Show as a fund raising project. This project was again lead by Paul Voelker (your editor) who built the layout and received help from some of the members who built the most of structures that went on it.

LEFT: A view looking down the gorge at the Tallulah Dam. The lower & upper railroads are separate lines with no common connection. The lower line crosses the river three times and the upper twice. A complete lower level scene can be viewed under the upper railroad, behind the cliffs & under the lake from cut-outs in the sides of the layout's fascia.

INSET: *Andy Ahrens* and his two daughters, *Marly* & *Ashely* of Powder Springs, GA, were the proud winners of this years layout.

BELLOW: View of one of the cutouts in the fascia showing the scenery on the lower level and upper level. The control panel can be seen to the right of the cutout, recessed into the fascia to protect the switches for the electrical blocks from damage and wandering hands.



\$16 / 4 ISSUES
1/18th PAGE



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Connecting Routes with
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3/2004



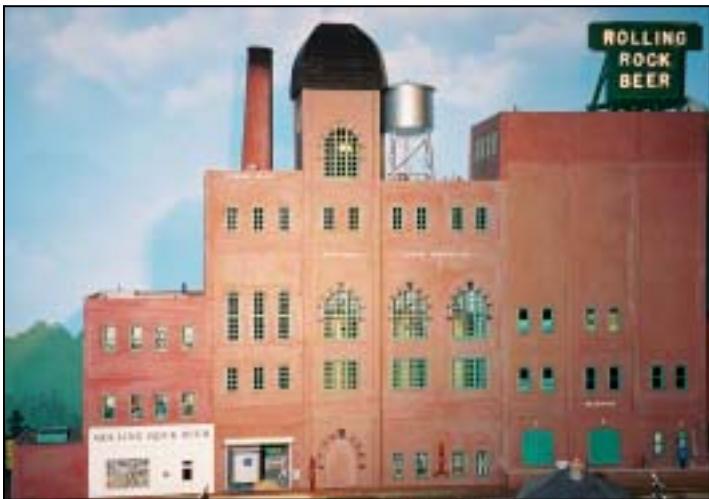
ROBERT & BRIAN HUNT
MARIETTA, GA

A Model Railroad in HO Scale
National Southern Railroad Co.
LAND OF DIXIE

Proprietor: RON GOUGH

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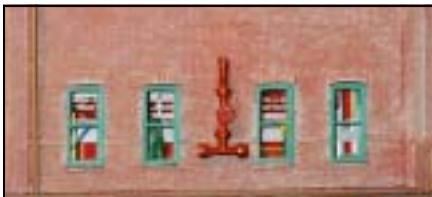
BUILDING THE ROLLING ROCK BREWERY

By Paul V. Voelker



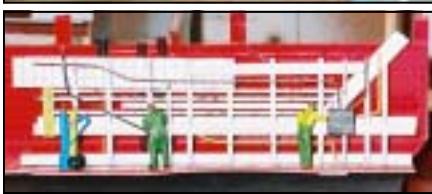
John Travis came to me one day in 1994 and asked me if I thought it might be possible to build a model of the Rolling Rock Brewery, that is located in Latrobe, PA. He had a "Hundredth Anniversary of Latrobe" book that had a picture of the brewery in the 1950's. I'd built a few structure models using the then-new Design Preservation Models modular wall sections for his layout already and I was getting pretty good at throwing them together. They could provide the shapes I'd need to build the brewery making it easier than scratch building it. John wasn't looking for an exact model, just something that would be maybe "close enough" to what the real thing looked like. We had just the one photo but later on John got a brochure from Rolling Rock that had a few more pictures of the building including some interior scenes.

I first started out by getting a planning package which is really just a sheet of paper with the wall sections printed on both sides in full scale. The idea is to make copies of the plan and cut out what you need and paste or tape them together to form a building. The end result will be the size of the structure. But for my planning purposes, I didn't want to go to all that trouble. I just wanted to get a feel for whether or not the wall sections could come close to the "look" of the brewery, size wasn't that important. I wanted to see what was available and what I would need to



The Bottling Room

When you are doing an interior that will get limited viewing, it isn't necessary to get the details exactly right. Just enough has to be constructed to get the desired effect. As a boy, one of my schools field trips was to a bottling plant and what is simulated here is what I remember of that trip.



modify, hack up, or whatever, to get the desired effect. The thought of making this a 'contest quality model' was the furthest thing from my mind.

I took a copy of the instruction sheet (printed on brown paper) and cut out the various wall section profiles. I was then able to piece together what I wanted, cutting and fitting the profiles until I had the desired effect. It wasn't perfect, but it would be close enough.

The old building, including the tower section, required the most wall sections or pieces of sections to get the desired patterns of brickwork. The New Building and Shipping Department were the easiest to build as they are a straight forward construction project with no fancy changes to walls or windows.

The pictures and captions can tell a better story than I can in this narrative and far more efficiently so I won't go into repetitive details. I will say that the project also involved building and detailing the switch tower that appears in some of these views. GV Tower was built to put Rolling Rock into perspective. Rolling Rock is so big that no one would be able to comprehend its size unless some known, identifiable structure was placed relatively close to it. This tower serves that function and at the same time pins down the timeframe of the scene to 1955, twenty years after the NMRA was formed in 1935.

The brewery's dimensions are: 41 inches long by 5 inches deep by 21 inches tall. Originally the building was only going to be 2 inches deep but by relaying the track in front of it I was able to pick up 3 more inches allowing a partial interior.

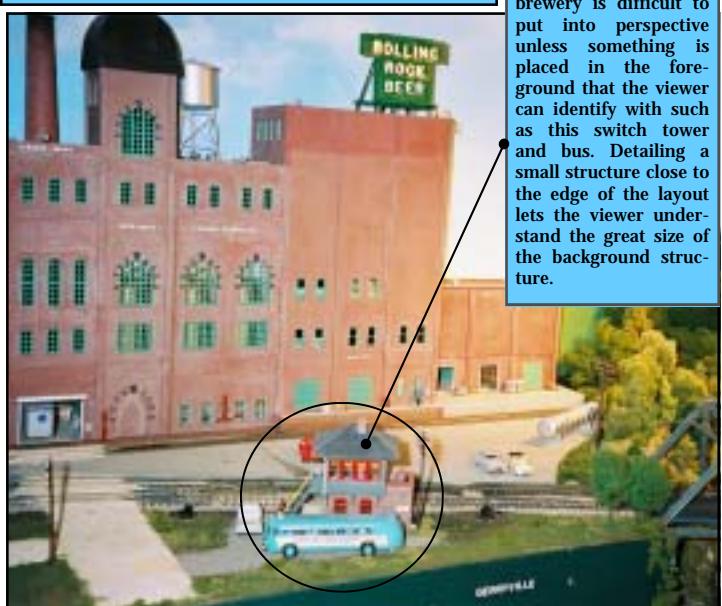
Other than the one picture of the original building, we had a brochure showing some other photos of the building and its interior. Unfortunately, the brochure was used for different parts of the building including the back wall of the Tasting Room and the medallion on the outside wall of that room. It was from the brochure that I discovered that the brewing kettles could be seen from the outside of the building leading to their inclusion in the interior.

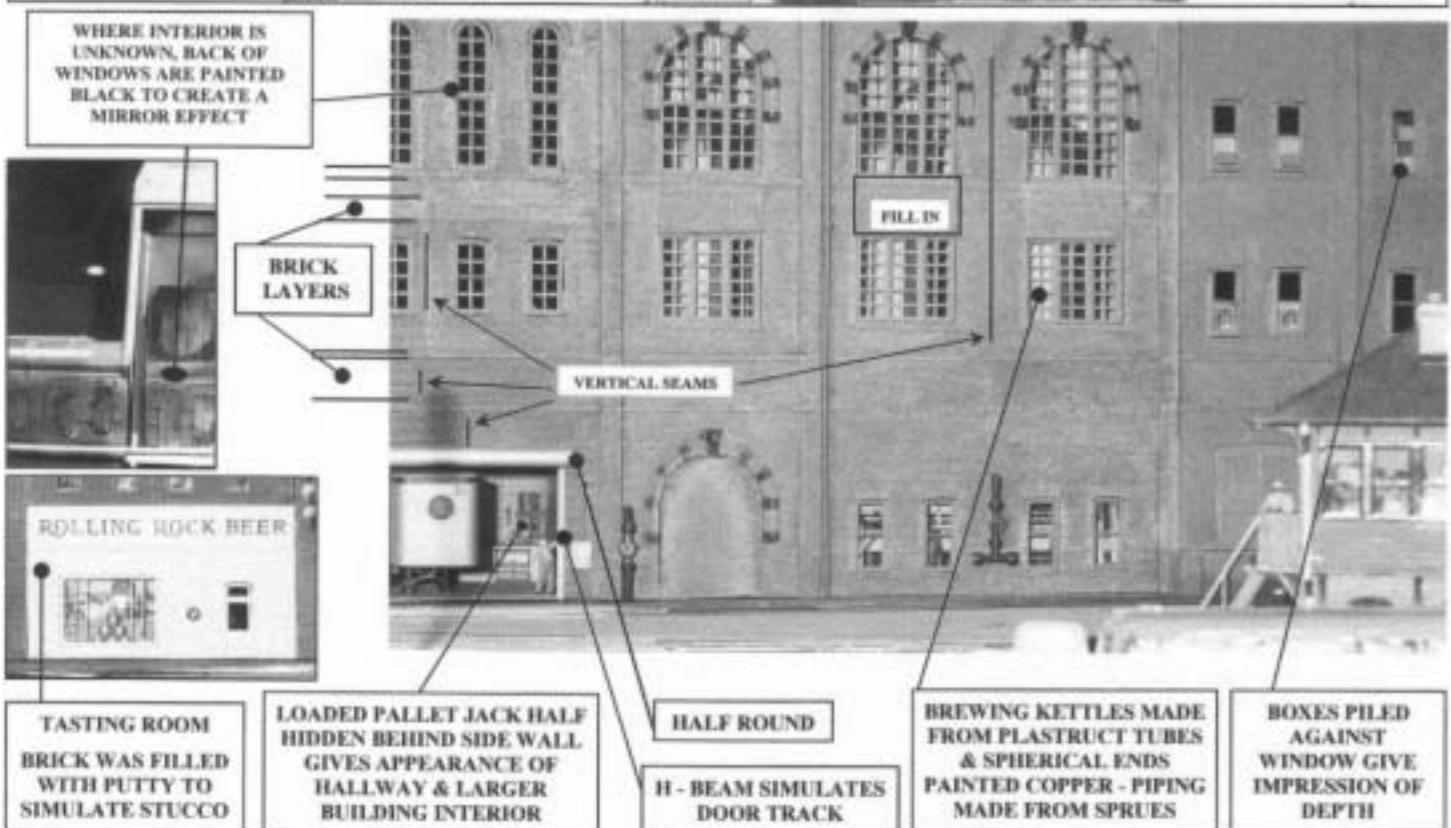
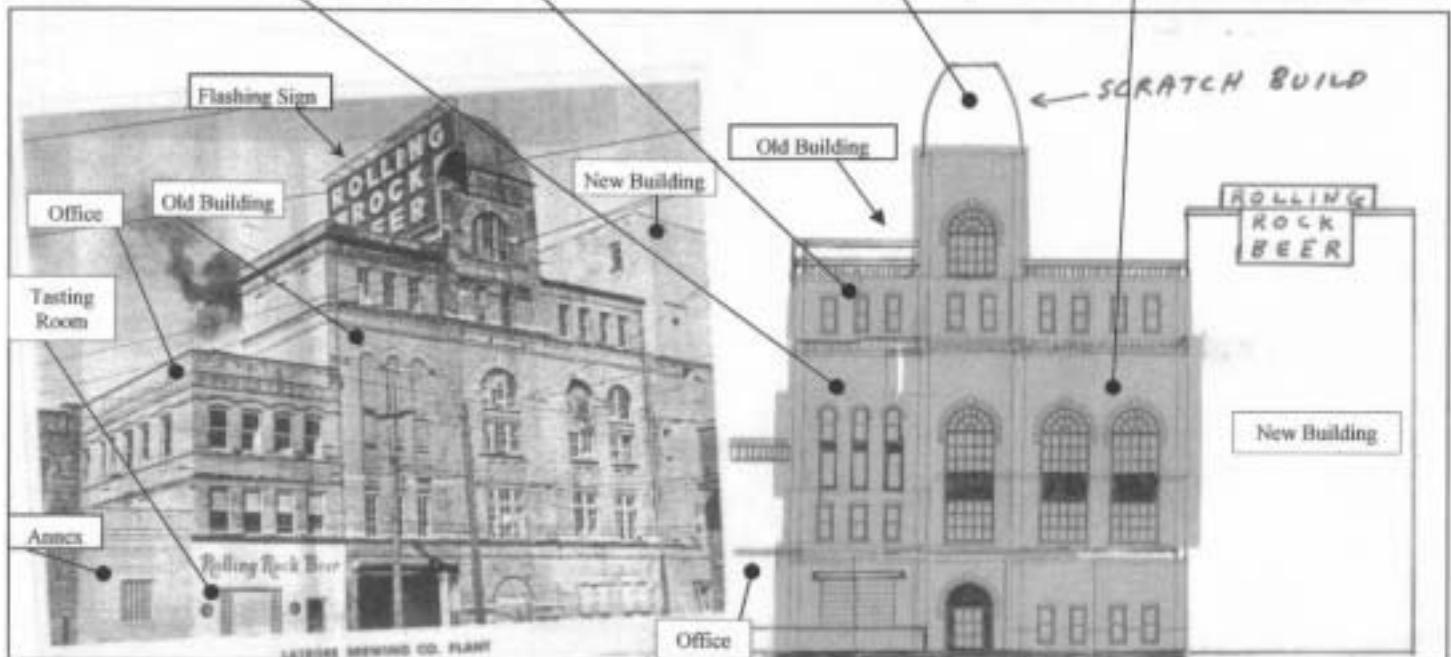
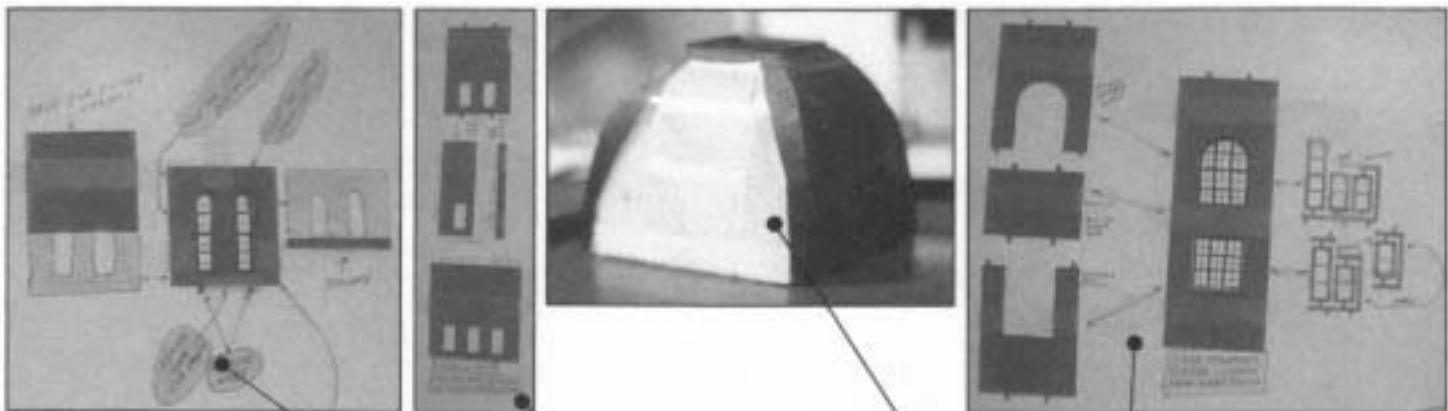
Some details that aren't seen in the photos are that the floors of both the Kettle Rooms and the Tasting Room are tile floors in a black & white checkerboard pattern. For that I painted the floors gloss white and applied a checkerboard decal from a set of racecar decals in what looked like the correct size. These decals come in a large variety of colors so many combinations can be done.

And don't forget roof details! An entire book could be done just on detailing roofs. Every building no matter what it is, if it has interior plumbing, it will have a stand pipe sticking out through the roof somewhere. The plumbing can't work without one and in larger buildings, several standpipes can be seen. Just look at your own house's roof for a clue as to how much junk needs to be on even the simplest of roofs. Air conditioners and water tanks on larger structures and/or the remains of their support metalwork if they have been removed are details usually forgotten about or not even known of in the first place.

This was a fun project to do and would have been even more fun had I not been building half a dozen equally complex structures at the same time and had a deadline (the convention) to meet. PVV

A Matter of Perspective

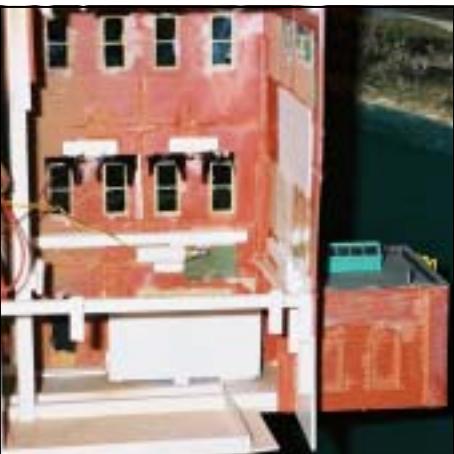






Interior Details Yes or No?

Various views of the backside of Rolling Rock. Few people have ever seen this side of the building in the nine years of its existence save John, Gerry & I. The office interior was added to the building a couple of years after the 1995 NMRA convention in Atlanta.

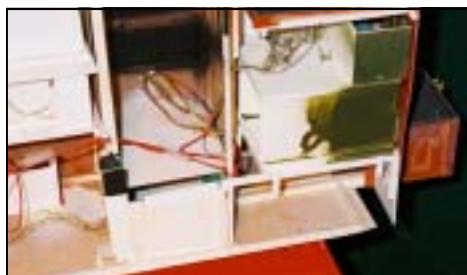


The view to the left shows the bare interior of the Office Building. This is what it looked like during the 1995 National Convention. A couple of years later I found the time to give the Office an interior. Various details such as desks, lamps, bookcases and such were found in interior detail packs put out by Model Power. These along with some scratchbuilt items formed the interior scenes.

The walls were made from .040" styrene sheet material and lights were added for illumination of the interiors. Unfortunately, I used 12V bulbs instead of 1.5V bulbs, the result of which was that after years of being lit and unventilated, some of the walls and floors have warped as can be seen in the photos.

In the Shipping Building (upper right photos) I used lots of barrels and pallets plus some scratchbuilt shelving to give the room the flavor of a shipping area. In the circle in the lower photo is a man carrying something in front of a door with a window. There is a similar door on the outside of the building and if you get the angle right you can look in the front door, through the office (and past the two people inside it), and through the backdoor to see this guy. There are actually five people in this scene if you count the guy in the front doorway and the guy outside. All told there are over 50 people in this building even though some are very hard to either see or find.

My own personal view of interiors is that if you have the space, have some idea of what should be there, have large enough windows or a foreground structure then put in an interior. If you have no idea what the interior should look like and no plans to ever put one in then just paint the insides of the windows black to create a mirror effect. The other options would be shades or dullcoat.



SMRFEST 2003

*Southeastern Model
Railroaders
Forum Meeting
October 3, 4 and 5*

If you are interested in railroads that operated south of the Mason-Dixon Line/Ohio river and east of the Mississippi River, then you will be interested in SMRFest 2003. We are a diverse group of people who are interested in railroads in the southeast quarter of the country. This includes everything from Atlantic Coast Line to Gulf, Mobile & Ohio, Illinois Central, Missouri Pacific, Frisco, KCS, Florida East Coast, Seaboard Air Line, C&O, B&O and many others. Bring what you have and share it with like minded individuals. The meeting site is in the Atlanta, GA area.

Wingate Inn
1355 Mall of Georgia Boulevard,
Buford, GA 30519
Phone: (678) 714 0248

State that you want the **SMRFest 2003** rate. The Wingate is a very nice hotel with free high-speed internet access and breakfast. There is an exercise room as well as a pool and plenty of space to get together and shoot the bull about trains; or anything else, for that matter.

We will begin Friday afternoon and conclude Sunday with a self-guided tour of Metropolitan Atlanta and the surrounding area. This is ideal for those of you who drive, since no matter which way you have to go to get home, there is something to see.

We have many superb model railways in the area and are currently making arrangements for tours. The area is served by two prototype railroads: Norfolk Southern and CSX. The NS main is three miles from the hotel, while the CSX main is five miles in the opposite direction. Prototype facilities in Atlanta include all types of rail transit except ship-to-rail. Several good hobby shops are in the area, including Trainmaster of Georgia, which is only three miles from the hotel.

The fare for **SMRFest 2003** is US\$20.00, payable by check or money order made payable to **SMRFest 2003**. The Address is: **SMRFest 2003 P.O. Box 1133, Grayson, GA. 30017**

For more information contact me via email. Be sure to put **SMRFest 2003** in the header.

Demetre Argiro
argirode@mindspring.com

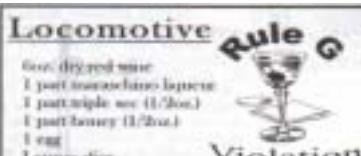
AUTUMN RAILS 2003

Sponsored by the
FRENCH BROAD e'N'pire NTRAK CLUB

All Aboard for our **FOURTH ANNUAL Model Railroad Show and Swap Meet**
Saturday,
Oct. 11, 2003
10 am to 4 pm

Admission: \$10.00 Adults - \$5.00 Under 12 - Free
Parking: \$5.00
Address: contact Cheryl Pierce at P.O. Box 4096, Lake Lure, NC 28745 or call 828-688-2124
E-mail: cheryl.pierce@charter.net

BONCLARKEN
ASSEMBLY AUDITORIUM
Blue Ridge Road, Flat Rock, NC
(Hendersonville)



Ice, dry red wine
1 part maraschino liqueur
1 part triple sec (1.5oz.)
1 part honey (1.5oz.)
1 egg
Lemon slice
Ground cinnamon
Combine wine, liqueur, and honey in a shaker. Stir until honey is dissolved. Then add liqueur and wine until full, stirring often. Do not boil. Stir in a slightly beaten egg. Strain and stir the alcohol 1 minute. Pour into a heated coffee mug and garnish with cinnamon and lemon slice.

Warning: Always drink responsibly when at an operating session. Don't spill drinks on the track!

Report of the Contest Chairman

By Dean Belowich, MMR

The results of the model and photo contests held on May 9-11 at the SER Convention in Chattanooga, Tennessee are as follows:

Entries in the contests totaled 29; 23 models (down 17 from '02), 6 photographs (up 3 from '02), and 3 Arts and Crafts (down 3 from '02). Winners of merit awards will be listed in the AP Report. The contest winners by category were:

NMRA Model Contest

(SER member unless noted, HO Scale unless noted)

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------|
| Steam Locomotives | Don Niday | Narrow Gauge 3 tr. Shay (On3) | First Place |
| Diesel Locomotives | Andy Lester | NS GP40 #1372 | First Place |
| | Andy Lester | NS GP30 #2598 | Second Place |
| | Andy Lester | NS GP40X #7001 | Second Place (tie) |
| Freight Cars | Robert Swieder | WM Well Hole Flatcar | First Place |
| | Robert Swieder | Conrail Center Depressed Flat | Second Place |
| | Andy Lester | SRR Hogshead Tobacco Car | Third Place |
| Cabooses | Andy Lester | N&W Transfer Caboose | First Place |
| | Thomas Bailey | Tennessee Midland Waycar | Second Place |
| Passenger Cars | <i>NO ENTRIES !!</i> | | |
| Traction | <i>NO ENTRIES !!</i> | | |
| Non-Revenue | <i>NO ENTRIES !!</i> | | |
| Structures On-Line | Sam Swanson | Skewed Truss Bridge | First Place |
| | Ben Bartlett | Erie Interlocking Tower | Second Place |
| | Scott Matherly | Emporium Seafood | Third Place |
| Structures Off-Line | Rob Love | Big Lou's Hot Dog Stand | First Place |
| Displays On-Line | Dudley Ross | Afton VA. Display | First Place |
| | Dudley Ross | Stevens KY. Display | Second Place |
| Displays Off-Line | <i>NO ENTRIES !!</i> | | |
| Favorite Train | Phil Hutchinson | In my absence of mind, I didn't record the specifics for Phil's entries, however he took First, Second, and Third for his entries. | |

Photography Awards

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Color Print Prototype | Chris White | Again, no details for the Photos, but Chris took First, Second and Third with his entries. |
| Color Slide Prototype | <i>NO ENTRIES !!</i> | |
| B/W Print Prototype | <i>NO ENTRIES !!</i> | |
| Color Print Model | <i>NO ENTRIES !!</i> | |
| B/W Print Model | <i>NO ENTRIES !!</i> | |
| Color Slide Model | <i>NO ENTRIES !!</i> | |

Arts and Crafts Awards

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Arts and Crafts | <i>NO ENTRIES !!</i> |
|------------------------|----------------------|

Southeastern Region Awards

were presented as follows:

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Mack Craig Award | Best in Show (Gold) | Ben Bartlett for his Erie Interlocking Tower |
| Will Miller Award | Best in Show (Silver) | Dudley Ross for his Afton, VA. Display |
| John Dakin Award | <i>NO ENTRIES !!</i> | |
| Gold Spike Award | Best Narrow Gauge (Gold) | Sam Swanson for his Skewed Truss Bridge |
| Silver Spike Award | Best Narrow Gauge (Silver) | Don Niday for his Narrow Gauge 3 truck Shay (On3) |
| Callahan 101 Award | Not awarded this year | |

Thanks so very much, and congratulations to all the participants in this year's contest. Even if you did not place in the contest, everyone was a winner just for bringing a model to the meet. Our numbers were down this year from last, but we had a great many of high quality entries. I also wish to thank those who brought models for display. Those numbers too were down from last year, but at least many made the effort to bring something. Next year let's work a little harder. I will make it a priority again for the next show to get as many people to participate. As I have continued to state, this is a modeling organization, and therefore it is logical to make models the centerpiece of the Convention.
Again, Thank You all for participating. Let's work towards an even bigger show next year !

A note of thanks for the judges who worked the afternoon scoring the models: Thanks go to Mike Braunstein, Mike Ferry, Howard Garner, Sam Swanson, Nate Stone, and Phil LaBarbera.

Remember, if you have any questions regarding this or any past contests, please write or e-mail me.

Please keep up the good work and I look forward to seeing or hearing from you soon!!

NOTICE:

Photos of contest entries and winners can be found on the Front Cover, Back Cover & pages 2 & 23.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO TAKE ON THE ROLL OF:

SER TRUSTEE

Anyone interested in running for the position should send a note and resume to the SER Secretary Bob Beaty by e-mail or snail-mail.

Nominations have to be in by Fall to allow for publication in the Bulletin and a vote Jan.'04.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

That Single Membership with the NMRA has been a boon to SER membership can easily be seen from the data. SER membership has grown by 44 or 11% since February, and by 57 or 15% since last October. Subscription is down by only 17 during that time, some by electing to become members and others by failure to renew. Growth in SER membership has occurred in the face of declining to level NMRA membership rolls.

We continue to work on the transition problems inherent in the changeover to NMRA collection of SER dues, but the overall advantages far outweigh any lingering issues. The amount of time I must spend has been significantly reduced. Revenues to the SER have increased, and the checks now go straight to the SER treasurer for quicker deposit. And, most significantly, the whole process is easier and less confusing to all members.

If any member or subscriber did not get the latest issue of the SouthErneR, please contact me via phone (423) 344-7505 or email shafferkr@aol.com, so that I can find the problem and get it fixed.

Karl Shaffer
Registrar



NMRA/SER Membership Report May 6, 2003

| SER Division | NMRA Members | SER Members | SER Life Members | Southerner Subscribers | Southerner Life Subscr. |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | 36 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 2 | 104 | 39 | 4 | 7 | 1 |
| 3 | 36 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 4 | 46 | 14 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 5 | 378 | 191 | 13 | 18 | 4 |
| 6 | 45 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 7 | 91 | 32 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| 8 | 55 | 11 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 9 | 33 | 18 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 10 | 47 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 11 | 100 | 30 | 2 | 7 | 0 |
| 12 | 67 | 17 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| 13 | 54 | 16 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 14 | 30 | 14 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| 15 | 61 | 19 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| 00 | | | | 40 | 13 |
| Total | 1203 | 436 | 42 | 94 | 22 |
| 2/16/03 | | 392 | 48 | 98 | 22 |
| 10/3/02 | | 379 | 48 | 111 | 22 |

REPORT OF THE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM MANAGER

By Dean A. Belowich, MMR, SER AP Manager

A hardy round of applause goes to all those who have earned AP certificates this year. We have had quite a few submittals in the time period between our last convention and Chattanooga. We had 11 SOQ's approved including one MMR, and 2 Golden Spike's Awarded. Two more are pending approval at National. The Contest at this year's convention also yielded a number of Merit Awards. A total of 7 were given out as a result of the annual contest, with another 3 given as separate Merit Judging.

The number of models were down this year from Greenville, and therefore the Merit Award count is as well. Chattanooga had great attendance, but lacked the participation in the Model Room from the year before, where some 100 models were either displayed or entered in merit judging. I hope we can pick up the number for next year. Remember, the Model Room/Contest are an NMRA benefit that costs nothing. All it takes is a little time to carefully box up that model and bring it along with you.

I do sincerely thank all those who participated this year. A lot of great looking models, and many from first time entrants. Let's continue to bring the numbers up !

A rousing congratulations to all those who have earned awards. And a special ovation to Ron Gough for earning his MMR certificate. I was able to recognize Ron at the convention, and he was presented his plaque at his home division in Atlanta. As those who work towards MMR know, its not always an easy task, but earning it is worth the effort. Keep up the great work everyone !

*The following Achievement Program Awards have
been approved by National as of May 11, 2003.*

Golden Spike

Tom Schultz - Birmingham, AL

Master Builder - Structures

Joe Nichols, JR. - Atlanta, GA

Chief Dispatcher

Howard Garner - Pickens, SC

Master Model Railroader

Ron Gough - Roswell, GA

A note to all SER Divisional AP Managers:

Please remember when submitting SOQ to me, that you verify that all the required paperwork is included such as, the complete SOQ forms and records with signatures, and a copy of the members current NMRA membership card. The packages should be complete before I receive them. There are still a few out there that have come incomplete, and I thank those that have been getting them to me in one package, as it keeps from delaying the process.

The VP's Keyboard

Pat Turner, VP SER

Too much is never enough! This was my basic theory on trains for many years. With this basic thought I am going to step away from the title of V.P. and type about other items this issue.

While we all like to think that we can never have too many trains I found myself with just this problem a few years ago when my interest in narrow gauge came to light. I was fast approaching the 1,000-car mark with HO standard gauge cars. That was just too many HO standard gauge cars for someone that was now modeling in S scale narrow gauge, Sn3! So I started to sell, and sell some more and some more. Today I am down to under 500 and I have also cut the number of engines in half. I have been working on thinning down the trains I don't really need for a few years now, but another issue has come to my attention now.

Just cutting down on the number of trains has not significantly reduced the any part of my life. I have found myself of late suffering from just too many train related activities. I have gotten to the point that I have not even had time to build a model in the last year that I can remember! What really made me aware of this was that I won the Dave Muller Award at the SER convention this past May in Chattanooga, TN. This award is given to the person in the SER that has done the most in the past year to promote the hobby of model railroading. While I am truly honored to have received this award it also made me stop and think.

What I thought was I can't keep up this pace and still consider myself a model railroader if I don't make some time to build some models! I had turned into a model collector that was dedicated to promoting the hobby. There is nothing wrong with being a collector or promoting the hobby, but I like to build models too!

Now it is time to get back on track (pun intended, as you can see I never lost my sense of humor). To do this I have to juggle work, family, friends, home maintenance, building models, railfanning, conventions, meets and meetings, positions and offices I hold, promoting the hobby, and somehow I still have to find time to eat and sleep! Yes, I could use to cut back on the eating, but I need to get some other things under control first.

The main thing was to identify these items, now I know what I am working with and I am working towards getting things done. I had to make a commitment to myself that I would not take on any new projects that would cut into my already non-existent free time. This will hopefully allow me to work on things I have already committed to do.

Now that I am back on track (yes, it is narrow gauge) I would recommend that everyone step back from what they are doing with their modeling and see if they are on the track they set out to be on. Make sure all the sidings you take have a turnout at both ends.

Happy Modeling.
Pat Turner, V.P.



OUR INTREPID V.P.,
PAT TURNER,
WAS THIS YEAR'S WINNER OF
THE MUCH COVETED
DAVE MULLER AWARD
FOR HIS EXTENSIVE WORK
WITHIN THE SER PROMOTING
THE HOBBY AND THE REGION.



The President's Car

By Phil Hutchinson, President, SER

Those of us who attended our annual convention in Chattanooga will, I am sure, extend to the host HQ Division members a very hearty 'Thank You' for a job well done. There are too many helpers to name individually but with the leadership of Mark McAllister they put on a very successful convention and train show. The flooding rains the days before the convention caused only a little inconvenience. I checked into the Choo-Choo on Thursday and set out for the NMRA offices at 3pm. I arrived at the office about 4:50. Flooded roads and traffic congestion making a 15/20 min. trip a nearly 2 hr. ordeal, only to find the office had been closed all day. Since I was there I had a look around the Tennessee Valley RR Museum and saw them getting ready for a visit from Thomas the Tank Engine. It took another two hours to get back to the hotel. Driving a SUV really paid off that day.

By Friday afternoon when the convention was getting underway the flood waters had receded enough to be no great problem. The railroad surveyors did a good job around town. I didn't see any flooding of tracks as I drove through town. The Choo-Choo has great ambiance of course for a model railroad convention. The size of the place made for a great deal of walking from room, to the model room, to clinics, to restaurant, to train show, we probably walked off all the good food we ate, in the restaurant and at the excellent banquet served Saturday night. I think all had a good time. As I remarked at the start of the Annual Business Meeting, our conventions some what resemble an old boys' reunion. After attending them for a number of years you realize that you are seeing, and happily so; the same people, and that is one of the good aspects of attending - the fellowship of friends with common interests. There is also the opportunity to learn at the clinics & see the interesting layouts at the train show. Wasn't that LEGO layout something to see? Then there is the chance of finding a vendor with just what you have been looking for. If you have never attended an SER convention before plan to be at our 2004 convention in Bessemer, Alabama! I'm sure you will enjoy it.

At our board meeting on Friday night, MMR Bob Beaty announced he intended to stand for the office of President and Trustee for the SER. The Board, acting as a nominating committee, concluded that he was well qualified to hold the office and approved without a vote his standing for office. There were no other nominations submitted. Please note that the Board action does nothing more than state that Bob is well qualified for the office and not that he is the Board's choice. For future aspirants to be a Trustee it should be noted that the NMRA requires that they hold or be qualified for the AP Certificate of Association Volunteer or Association Official.

Dean Belowich brought along a commemorative plaque of the John C. Dakin Award which I will present to John's son and daughter-in-law at the June 19th meeting of the Steel City Division in Birmingham. Mrs. Dakin asked for a copy of the award as



a family memento of John. This award is for the best example of the combination of two or more structural kits into one structure, otherwise known as "kit bashing". One of the past recipients I know of is Nate Stone and that brings up the idea that we need to do something to keep a permanent record of all the recipients of the award. As well as the plaque presented to the winner we need to keep a plaque of the award to which we add the names of each winner. This plaque would be exhibited in the model room at each convention. It should have a short description of the requirements and a short bio of the person for whom the award is named. I have no personal memory of John Dakin. I don't think there are many members in the SER who do. Perhaps our Historian, Dr. Joe Nichols, Sr. could research this for us. By doing this we record some of the SER history for those that follow us. There are other awards we give in the SER that should be recorded for prosperity in the same way. A list of all the SER awards with a description of requirements, a bio of the person for whom it is named, and the names of all recipients needs to be made a part of the SER web site.

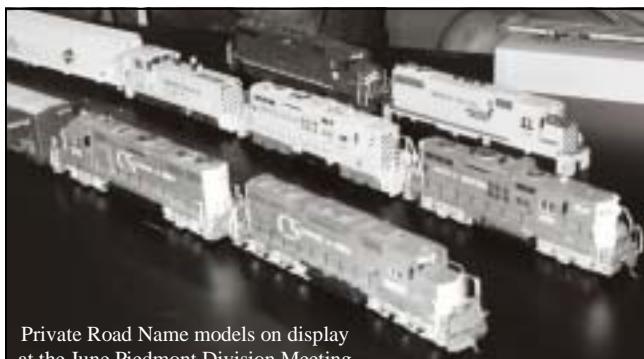
At the Annual Business Meeting, after breakfast, it was my pleasant task as President to greet everyone, and have the meeting recognize all MMRs and those attending our SER convention for the first time, and we had a good group of these. I also noted that we had some long distance attendees, from Pensacola, Savannah, and Mississippi. The main subject of discussion was the NMRA Long Range Plan as regards to the way the SER would be split between two Trustees, or Directors as they will be called. A motion, passed with unanimous approval, recommends that the SER Trustee and the other NMRA Trustees oppose this division. For those not familiar with the proposed change, those SER members in the Florida panhandle, GA, SC, and north west NC would vote for the Eastern Director, and the remainder of the SER would vote for the Central Director. The USA is divided into three zones, Eastern, Central, and West, extending south from the Canadian border to the southern limits of the USA, without consideration of the make up of Regions. The NMRA BOT proposes to present the LRP for an all or nothing vote. I have expressed the opinion that all the acceptable and desirable provisions of the LRP will be lost because my contacts with members indicate that this division is not acceptable, and that I propose that the LRP be voted on article by article. I will introduce such a motion in the July BOT meeting in Toronto, Canada.

The position of SER President would not be combined with either of these Directors, and would be elected separately by the SER as presently constituted.

Happy Modeling.
Phil Hutchinson

Northeast Alabama Model Railroad Club
is looking for new members...

Contact: Charles Dick, (256) 878-2537
1208 Highpoint Road
Albertville, AL 35747
or email charlesdick@mindspring.com
We are in the Mid-South Division.



Private Road Name models on display
at the June Piedmont Division Meeting

REGION MAP

Showing:

States, Counties,
Towns & Division
Boundaries can be
found at:

www.camrc.org - /ser/



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors

May 9, 2003 - Chattanooga, Tennessee

The spring meeting of the board of Directors of the Southeastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association was convened in Chattanooga, TN at the site of the 2003 Annual Convention.

Board members present: Phil Hutchinson, President, Pat Turner, Vice President, Bob Beaty, Secretary, Randall Watson Treasurer, Tom Schultz, Director, Mike Braunstein, Director, Len Polinsky, Director, Mike Ferry, Director, Roy Tritt, Executive Advisor.

Committee chairmen present: Karl Shaffer, Registrar, Dean Belowich, Contests and AP, John Stevens, good and Welfare. Other members present: Richard Dalrymple, Empire Division, Dale Bryant, HQ Division, bob McIntyre, Piedmont Division, Charles Bryan, Land o Sky Division. Paul Locher, John Blanchard, J. Allen Hicks, George Gilbert, Chris White.

A quorum was present. Meeting called to order by President Hutchinson at 8:10 PM EDT

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the BOD meeting in Birmingham, AL as presented in the SouthEneR were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Treasure Watson reported a quarter ending balance of the Checking Account of \$2,620.99 and a total Reserve of \$20,801.22. Reserve for Life Dues will be re-calculated for the new dues rate of \$10.00. The proposed budget for 2003-2004 was presented. It has an estimated Operating Loss of \$420.00. BOD noted that Income from Conventions should be computed as a running five-year average. Treasurer's Report was accepted.

VP Report: VP turner reported on continuing efforts to contact all Division Supers.

Membership/Registrar Report: Registrar Shaffer reported total membership at 436. Single dues membership has helped with growth 11% since February.

VP Turner moved that the SER Trustee request clarification from the NMRA BOT if current single point collection of dues and subscription services can continue after and if the Long Range Plan goes into effect. Seconded by Ferry, Motion carried.

AP report: eleven SOQ were submitted, one MMR, two Golden Spikes, two AP certificates are pending. Belowich presented an engraved Dakin Award plaque to President for presentation to the Dakin family.

Web Page: Tritt reported the addition of a calendar of events and noted that Divisions can be provided space on the SER web site. The Web Presence Committee has not met yet due to multiple conflicts.

Good and Welfare: A total of 107 letters were written to members, 64 were milestone birthday letters.

Old Business

2003 Convention

Discussion of financial arrangements between Convention hosts and the SER followed. In light of the unique situation with the 2003, Train show profits belong to the host. Director Braunstein moved: "The SER split the profit from the convention, Train Show's profit is separate. Future conventions will sign a written contract between host and SER." Seconded by Turner. Vote: 5 Yea, 2 No, motion carried.

Director Schultz reported that due to a tight schedule on Friday of the 2004, he requests that the BOD meeting be scheduled for a dinner meeting from 5-7 on Friday evening. Accepted.

Pres. Hutchinson asked for information concerning a 2005 convention bid. No location currently available to be presented.

New Business

Director Polinski Moved to authorize an increase of the funds to support the Dave Mueller Award to \$60.00. Seconded by Schultz. Motion Carried.

Director Ferry requested clarification of the impact of the NMRA Long Range Plan on the SER. Lengthy discussion ensued. Executive Advisor Tritt moved: " The SER BOD ask the Trustee to oppose the LRP as distributed because it disenfranchises the majority of the membership and does not provide for input to organization leaders by the general membership." Director Ferry Seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Dale Bryant presented the BOD and Division Superintendents with maps of the SER Divisions.

There being no further business, director Ferry moved to Adjourn seconded by Director Schultz. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Submitted,

Robert Beaty
Secretary



Bob McIntyre's SV&S Tenwheeler on display at the June Piedmont Division's Meeting

SOUTHERN O-SCALERS (S.O.S.)

Southern O-Scalers (S.O.S.) is a newly formed O scale 2 rail modular club seeking new members. Come join us in the Atlanta-Metro area and surrounding states.

For information or inquiries Call or e-mail Dan Mason

Phone: 770-928-8618

danielmason@mindspring.com

Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting

Chattanooga, Tennessee - May 11, 2003

May 11, 2003, Scheduled 10:00 AM meeting called to order 9:30 AM by President Hutchinson to facilitate Mother's Day travel plans of attendees. President Hutchinson welcomed all attendees and recognized all of the Region's MMRs. President Hutchinson welcomed all new members of the Region and first time attendees to a Region Convention.

President Hutchinson called for a bid for the 2005 SER Convention.

Secretary's minutes from 2002 Annual Meeting accepted as printed in the SouthEneR. Moved by Howard Garner, seconded by Dale Bryant.

Treasurer's Report presented by Randall Watson. Life dues reserves will be recalculated based on the \$10.00 dues.

VP Turner reported on plans to encourage and develop Division web-sites linked to the SER Region page. Recognized and thanked Dale Bryant for compiling and providing Region/Division maps to the Superintendents.

Good and Welfare Chairman Stephens reported on "Milestone Birthday letters" sent to members.

Web master Tritt reported on the status of the SER Web page and noted increased traffic on the site. He called for more input and contributions.

Old Business

There was no old business to be discussed.

New Business

Robert Beaty, MMR 192, announced to the Region that he wished to be considered as a candidate for office of Region President and Trustee.

Roy Tritt was recognized to present to the membership action taken by the BOD relating to the NMRA Long Range Plan.

Motion: "The membership of the NMRA residing in the Southeastern Region advise the SER Trustee and the other NMRA Trustees that we oppose the LRP because it effectively disenfranchises the general membership and provides no meaningful conduit from the membership to the leadership of the National Organization."

Seconded by Joe Nichols. Motion carried unanimously.

Registrar Shaffer asked the membership to help purge the address data base and help resolve mail issues as it relates to delivery of the SouthEneR. Send address corrections/deletions directly to him.

SER 2004 Convention Chairman Tom Schultz reminded all attending that The 2004 convention will be held in Birmingham, AL Memorial Day week-end 2004. Detail will be forthcoming on the web page: scd-nmra.org

SER 2003 Co-chairman Dale Bryant announced additional tours of home layouts had been added to the Sunday schedule.

President Hutchinson recognized the Chattanooga Convention team and asked the membership to give a round of applause and a hearty "Well Done!" Standing applause followed.

Charles Bryant, Superintendent of the Land 'o Sky Division moved to adjourn. Seconded by Howard Garner. Motion was unanimously approved. There being no further business, The 2003 Annual Business meeting of the SER was concluded at 10: 07 AM

Submitted by:

Robert Beaty,
Secretary



SOUTH EASTERN REGION, FUTURE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It looks like we are in store for a fantastic meeting in Bryson City on Saturday September 13th. As most of you are aware, Shay 1925, Graham County RR, will be running in Bryson City that weekend.

I have reserved a block of rooms at the Sleep Inn, (828-488-0326), in Bryson City for Friday and Saturday night, September 12th and 13th. If you call to get a room there, ask for "The Charles Bryan Rooms - SER"

The discount rates are:

Double room, (two full size beds), \$88.19 a night

Single room, (one queen size bed), \$82.79 a night

They are non-smoking &, Yes, they do have a Continental Breakfast

Sleep Inn is right off the four lane at the Bryson City exit, easy to find.

Friday, September 12th- This will be a good time to get to Bryson City. The Shay will be there for viewing in the yard in Bryson. There may be some trips

scheduled for this day.

Saturday, September 13th- There are two Shay trips running out of Bryson City headed west. One trip is at 10:00 AM and the other is at noon.

Sunday, September 14th- There will be two trips out of Bryson, also at 10:00 AM and noon. They will dead head the engine back to Dillsboro later that afternoon.

There are others 'excursions' (Steam) and events planned as well, log on to www.gsmr.com

You must deal directly with Great Smokies RR to purchase tickets for the Saturday or Sunday trips out of Bryson City... these will also sell out quickly! 1-800-872-4681

This running of Shay 1925 will be an historic event, and we will be right in the middle of the action. Anyway you look at it, you won't want to miss this weekend.

Questions? E-Mail stficare@aol.com
(Thanks to Jerry Leadford for much of the above!)

GOOD & WELFARE

By John Stevens, Chairman

Since the last Southerner, I have written 35 letters. Two of those letters were for member deaths. Three of those letters were for illness/injury. Four of those letters were for awards won at the annual convention. One of those letters was thanking the convention chairperson for a job well done. Twenty-five of those letters were for Milestone Birthdays.

I haven't had the opportunity to get much done in the train room since my last report. I spent a day in Gainesville, GA helping my daughter move out of her college dorm. She is now safely at home with a phone constantly attached to her ear. My son succeeded in finishing tenth grade. He also had his Eagle Scout Court of Honor a few weeks ago. It was a very nice ceremony. I also helped the Piedmont Division with another Railroading Merit Badge session. This one was held in Griffin, GA with the Flint River Council. We had a great day, with 32 boys completing the requirements for the merit badge.

We took a family trip in April. It was kind of like trains, planes, and automobiles. My son had a week of vacation from school. We had talked about going up to New Hampshire, but the weather had been pretty bad. My wife had mentioned possibly taking a train through the Sierra Nevada's in California.

We found out Amtrak had a special rate sale in progress. We had planned on getting off in Salt Lake City, but the train got there about 3 am. We decided to continue on to Denver, where the train was scheduled to arrive around 7:30 pm. In the meantime, I was working on my schedule and found a great trip I wanted, so everything fell into place.

On Sunday, April 6th, my wife and son flew out to San Francisco. Once there, my sister came to pick them up and brought them back to her house. In the meantime, I flew up to Milwaukee. Once there we picked up the San Francisco Giants and flew them to San Francisco. I then took a bus to my sister's house. We woke up on Monday to "Chamber of Commerce" weather. Temperature was going to be in the high sixties with clear skies. My sister lives in Marin County which is just north of the Golden Gate Bridge. We spent the morning seeing the sites there, and then in the afternoon took the ferry to the city. We ended up eating at Fisherman's Wharf, and then took the ferry back home.

The weather Tuesday was great once again. My sister took us over to the Oakland area where we picked up the Amtrak train. We pulled out of the station within 5 minutes of departure time. Then things went downhill. There was a lot of track work in progress in the San Joaquin valley. By Sacramento, we were 20 minutes late. The scenery through the Sierra's was breathtaking. I have done a lot of railfanning along our route, but obviously we were in some areas that are inaccessible by road. There was still a lot of snow in the mountains. There was also a lot of work being done on the tracks, and we pulled into Reno almost 90 minutes late. We had dinner soon after Reno, and went to bed around 11 pm. By then, we were almost 2 hours late.

When we got up on Wednesday, we were already east of Salt Lake City. We had also almost gotten back on schedule. We spent the morning traveling through the eastern part of Utah into the western part of Colorado. By Grand Junction, we were back on schedule. The scenery through the Rockies was even better than through the Sierra's. We had dinner just before arriving in Denver, on time. My wife's niece was there to meet us at the station. We were able to spend about three hours with her before she took us out to the airport for our flight back to Atlanta.

The overall experience of riding Amtrak was wonderful. We found all the people to be very helpful. We found most of the passengers to be very friendly. I spend most of my time in the observation car. I was by far the biggest railfan on board. I had timetables, maps, and a scanner that I listened to throughout the trip. I also had a lot of people stop by and ask where we were or how fast we were going. The food was very good, although there were only about five selections for each meal. We all admitted we were ready for something else when we got off in Denver. Riding all the way to Chicago would have meant eating the same thing three or four times during the trip. I would recommend the trip if nothing else for the great scenery. I tried taking pictures, but they really didn't do the scenery justice. We were moving too fast and the scenery was just too vast.

I also made it to the annual convention up in Chattanooga. Attendance was good, and the Chattanooga crew did a wonderful job. The Choo Choo is a great location for a train group to meet. I managed to get on the Norfolk Southern tour and had a great time. I am already making plans for next year's event being held in Bessemer. Hope to see you there.

Respectfully,
John Stevens



Good & Welfare Letters

March 2003

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Family of Mal Maloy | Member death | Piedmont |
| Foy Johnston | Milestone Birthday | Piedmont |
| Tom Proctor | Milestone Birthday | Palmetto |
| David Auberto | Milestone Birthday | Piedmont |
| Louie Deaton | Milestone Birthday | Piedmont |
| James Thorington | Milestone Birthday | Steel City |
| Carl Fairchild | Milestone Birthday | HQ |
| Harry Williams | Milestone Birthday | Piedmont |

April 2003

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Clay Miller | Milestone Birthday | Cumberland |
| Robert Carl | Milestone Birthday | Mid-South |
| Roy Stewart | Milestone Birthday | Steel City |
| Chester Langley | Milestone Birthday | Mid-South |
| John Poppo | Milestone Birthday | Piedmont |
| Vernon Fraser | Milestone Birthday | Outside region |
| John Albrycht | Milestone Birthday | Magnolia |
| Jim Perry | Milestone Birthday | Cumberland |
| Ray Wilson | Milestone Birthday | Piedmont |

May 2003

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Family of | | |
| Jesse Cheatham | Member death | Dixie |
| Pat & Charles Cole | Pat's injury | Piedmont |
| " " " | Daughter's wedding | " |
| Diane Munro | Hospital stay | Piedmont |
| Rodlfo Allard | Milestone Birthday | Steel City |
| Roy Mantooh | Milestone Birthday | Outside region |
| Ray Wright | Milestone Birthday | Steel City |
| John Blanchard | Milestone Birthday | Piedmont |
| Michael Braunstein | Milestone Birthday | Empire |

June 2003

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Robert Hunt | Heart attack | Piedmont |
| Ben Bartlett | Mack Craig Award | Land O'Sky |
| Dudley Ross | Will Miller Award | Dixie |
| Sam Swanson | Gold Spike Award | Outside region |
| Pat Turner | Dave Mueller Award | HQ |
| John Ramatowski | Convention Chairman | HQ |
| Robert Hinshaw | Milestone Birthday | Magnolia |
| Lee Spencer | Milestone Birthday | Cen. Sav. Riv. |
| Paul D'Amato | Milestone Birthday | Piedmont |
| Christopher Doyte | Milestone Birthday | Cumberland |

Paul V. Voelker photo



MOW equipment & boom car on the DRGW 10/1983.

DIVISION REPORTS

HEADQUARTERS - DIVISION 13

Mark McAlister - HQDIV13@camrc.org

DIXIE - DIVISION 3

Open - Phil Hutchinson Reporting

Whew! Is spring over already? It seems like just yesterday we were anticipating the arrival of the Tennessee Bound convention. Well, the convention has come and gone and we are starting to recover. At this time, the final convention financial report has not been officially presented for approval. However, I can safely say that the SER will profit some from the convention! The profit will most likely be presented at the Fall 2003 SER BOD meeting.

I can't go any further without Thanking all those that worked very hard to make the convention a success. First I want to Thank John Ramatowski for taking over as Convention Chairman when my workload prevented me from having the time to place the energy into the convention that it took to make it happen. Your drive and energy is very much appreciated! The other planners and participant's names are too numerous to list but, members of the Chattanooga Area Model RR Club, Crossville Model RR Club, SER volunteer staff, NMRA's Kalmbach Library, The Wrecking Crew, North Georgia Lego Train Club, Middle Florida Lego Train Club, Midwest Lego Train Club, North Georgia Modurail, Knoxville Model Railroad Club, Steel City Division, Mid South Division, Clinician and so many others were instrumental in making this a very nice convention.

I placed an inquiry on the SER e-group listing on Yahoo. I asked that all those that attended the convention to please take the time to respond to the inquiry so we may learn from our experience. Many positive responses were received and some constructive criticism was noted. These comments will be compiled and forwarded to the SER BOD and the Steel City division as they plan for next year. Any other group that would like the results may inquire and I will send it to you. Below is the inquiry I placed online. If you haven't responded yet, please take time to either email your response to the questions or drop me a letter. All responses will remain anonymous if requested and only the answers will appear. Your opinion will help make future conventions more enjoyable.

For those that attended the convention, I hope you enjoyed it and Thank You for your participation.

Our group isn't stopping here, we have a picnic planned for the 1st of June, are working on participating in a multi-club function in the Atlanta area, a street festival in Crossville, TN and our annual county fair in the fall. There will be many opportunities to share our hobby with other modelers and the public. See you in Birmingham next year! - Mark

Dixie Division was well represented at our Chattanooga Convention AP judging with Dudley Ross's beautiful on-line dioramas. After seeing his home layout I convinced him that if he would bring some of his work to the convention and enter them into the AP he would make more than enough points to qualify for a certificate. With all scratch built structures and depicting locations on the C&O with photos showing the actual places, these dioramas had great detail. Dudley came away with "Best in Show". He will be participating again in the future. We both enjoyed the convention.

I note with sadness the passing of Jesse Cheatem in Dothan. We met at least once a year since 1970's at the train show he helped put on in conjunction with the NRHS chapter Pres. Danny Lewis.

The CAMRR Club has been visited by several interested visitors in the past few weeks. We hope to recruit them as new members after they get settled in the Prattville area.

Phil Hutchinson

PIEDMONT - DIVISION 5

Bob McIntyre - robert.mcintyre@gesm.ge.com

First, the Piedmont Division members want to thank everyone who had a part in hosting the Regional Convention in Chattanooga. You all did a great job. I also want to thank the members of the Piedmont Division who presented clinics at the event as well as other NMRA members. Each presenter gave out a tremendous amount of information. The challenge will be to put that information to use on our layouts in the coming months. There is no reason for putting off that river anymore!

A number of us visited the National Model Railroad Headquarters. The office staff did a nice job of making us welcome. The Kalmbach library was open and it was fun going through the stacks of books and doing some research.

Locally, our attendance at the monthly meetings in Tucker continues to be strong. We are averaging 65 attendees. Due to the financial strength of the Piedmont Division our "Membership Match" program has helped us sign 25 new members through June. Please contact Chris White, our Membership Chairperson

SER Convention Feedback Request

I would like everyone that participates here and that attended the convention to please take the time to reflect on your personal experience and email me with your thoughts to:

hq_div13@camrc.org

Please consider the following thoughts as you write. As we move forward, your comments will be shared with future convention planners in an effort to incorporate as many of your ideas as can be. - Mark McAlister

Please take the time to email them to me so I can compile them and share them with others and the SER BOD.

1. What is your overall impression of the convention?
2. Did you attend a clinic(s)? If not, why?
3. What would you like to see more of?
4. Was the timing of events such that you felt comfortable moving from one activity to another or did you feel rushed?
5. Did you experience any problems with your registration? If yes, were they handled promptly and to your satisfaction?
6. What is your opinion of the train show? Why?
7. What could we have done better?

for details if you are interested in implementing this type of program in your division. Work on the new membership booth continues and this will also help us deliver the message of the NMRA\SE Region/Piedmont Division to prospective new members.

We have had exciting clinics over the past few months. These include "Cheap Trees and Stupid Log Tricks" presented by Charlie Crawford. "Backdrop Painting on the SV&S, Phase II by yours' truly (me), and "Weathering Buildings" by Philo Hutchenson. The clinic continues to be the backbone of our monthly meetings.

At the time of writing this article we are planning on having a swap meet at the June meeting. Our annual Anniversary Meeting where we have door prizes to give away has been moved back to September. Both events continue to entice members to come and are real fun!

Each month we feature a member's model railroad as an open house. In April the SV&S was open. I never knew it was going to be so much work hosting such an event. In May it was great to see the National Southern Railroad hosted by Ron Gough open for display. He has really done a great job. In June Larry Smith will be featuring his CSX. Everyone is welcome.

I would be remiss if I did not congratulate Ron Gough for earning is MMR Certificate. We were honored that he chose the Piedmont Division meeting as the place he received his award. This brings to three the number of MMR's in the Division. This includes Dr. Joe Nichols Sr., Charlie Brown, and now Ron. Super job.

Well that is all for now and Happy Railroading, all aboard!

Bob McIntyre – Piedmont Division Superintendent

STEEL CITY - DIVISION 2

Tom Schultz - tom.schultz@bhsala.com

The 2004 SER Convention website is: www.scd-nmra.org

The Steel City Division held its February meeting with Bob Beaty, MMR judging four models. Scott Matherly and William Latture bought models. Scott bought two beautiful Fine Scale Miniature kits. One received a Merit Award. William bought two freight cars, one of which received a Merit Award. For both individuals this represented their first merit awards.

The March meeting featured Glenn Samuel and his clinic on making chenille trees. All members present tried their hand at it and some outstanding results occurred.

The April meeting was led by Sam Fell. Sam presented pine tree-making using wire. Much different than Glenn's trees but equally effective.

May featured Tom Schultz and Roy Stewart on distressing and staining stripwood and styrene. Tom demonstrated techniques used with stripwood. Roy discussed styrene. Many division members participated in the Chattanooga convention and the Wrecking Crew brought its layout. A great time was had by all and we thank the guys from Chattanooga who worked hard to put on a great show.

The June meeting will feature the presentation of the John Dakin Award to John's family who live in Birmingham. Our illustrious president Phil Hutchinson will be present. Guests who might have known John are welcome.

Three layout tours are planned for this summer.

Plans are continuing for the 2004 SER Convention to be held in Birmingham. Everyone should reserve Memorial Day weekend on their calendars. Our five nationally-renowned speakers and other events were announced at the Chattanooga convention. More on this later.

Tom Schultz

EMPIRE - DIVISION 6

Richard Dalrymple - BerkshireCentral@aol.com

The ACL/SAL Historical Society and the CofGa Historical Society held joint meeting in Albany, GA on May 2 – 4, 2003 at the Holiday Inn. The meeting featured two train rides, one Saturday and the other on Sunday. The Saturday trip was on the SAM Shortline, part of the Seaboard Air Line and operated as the Heart of Georgia Railroad, from Cordele, GA to Plains, GA and included a tour of former President Jimmy Carter's farm. After returning to Cordele there was about hour train watching at the Wye. The Sunday trip was on the Georgia Southwestern Railroad from Smithfield, GA to Eufala, AL (former Central of Georgia Railway). Slide presentations were given on both Friday and Saturday evenings. ACL/SAL HS had tables of memorabilia and also CofGa HS. Allen Tuten of the CofGa showed the pre-production model of the lapboard and plywood caboose. Many area NMRA members and modelers as well as society members were in attendance. A good time was had by all.

Richard Dalrymple
Superintendent, Empire Division

GULF - DIVISION 4

Ed Dice - EdwardDice@aol.com

Things are rolling along in the Gulf Division.
Summer heat is roasting us long with the steamy humidity.

The Pensacola Model RR Club is organizing everything for the 6-7 Sep train show.
This will be their first train show and everything is looking great.

The Emerald Coast Garden Railway Club is holding monthly show-n-tell meetings at the West Florida Railroad Museum in Milton, Florida. We have lots of activity there.

I still have to get out and visit the out lying areas. My apologies for that dereliction of my duties. Will try harder.

Ed Dice
Gulf Division Superintendent
850-455-1313
EdwardDice@aol.com

SOUTHEASTERN

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SOUTHEASTERN REGION DIRECTORY

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 1305 Chestnut Drive, Brentwood, TN 37207
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 5411 Hyland Drive, Pascagoula, MS 39567
Land O' Sky: Charles Bryan (828) 645-6896 stfcare@aol.com
 218 Kyfields, Weaverville, N.C. 28787

Southern Railway

1937 AAR 40 foot Double Door Steel-Sheathed Automobile Boxcar By Red Caboose in HO Scale

The Piedmont Division, SER-NMRA is selling a limited-run car in four individual road numbers. Kits sell for \$15.00 each or a 4 car set for \$50.00. Shipping and insurance for one to three cars is \$5.00 & a four car set is \$6.00. Send orders to:

**Bill Parks,
 783 Robinhood Trail
 Gainesville, GA 30501**

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Piedmont Division/SER.

*For more information, contact Bill Parks at:
 bparks_43@yahoo.com
 Phone: (770) 535-1292.*

STEEL RAILS BACK TO THE STEEL CITY

www.scd-nmra.org

**2004 SER Convention
 Bessemer Civic Center
 Bessemer, Alabama**

**Memorial Day Weekend
 May 28-30, 2004**

**5 Nationally Known Clinicians
 20 Regionally Known Clinicians
 15-20 Layout Tours
 Prototype Tours
 Non-Rail Program**

The Club Car —

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

Atlantic Division

Atlantic Division, Nate Stone, Savannah, GA. (912) 354-2604
Coastal Rail Buffs, Savannah, GA., Nate Stone, (912) 354-2606
<http://www.coastalrailbuffs.org/>
Golden Isles Model Railroad Club, Brunswick, GA.
Grand Strand Model Engineers, Myrtle Beach, SC.

Bluff City Division

Bluff City Division, Ned B. Savage, Memphis, TN. (901) 682-8716
The Memphis N-Scale Road Railers
The Memphis Society of Model Engineers

Central Savannah River Division

Central Savannah River Division, Terry Pitts, Jr. Augusta, GA.
(706) 636-9581
Georgia-Carolina Model Railroaders, Augusta, GA. Roy Tritt,
(706) 733-6870

Cumberland Division

Cumberland Division, Bob Hultman, Brentwood, TN., (615) 833-5158
Nashville NTRAK, Nashville, TN., Ken Harrel (615) 352-4576
<http://www.nashvillentrak.org>
Nashville Garden Railway Society, Nashville, TN., Ross Evans
(615) 292-6555
Tennessee Central Railway Museum, Nashville, TN.,
Terry Bebou, (615) 244-9001 FAX -2120 terry.bebou@mach10internet.com
<http://tcry.org>
Mid-South Live Steamers, Columbia, TN., Hank Sherwood (615) 665-0512
<http://www.midsouthlivesteamers.org> midsouthlivesteamers@yahoo.com

Dixie Division

Dixie Division, Phil Hutchinson, Montgomery, AL, (334) 272-1933
Central Alabama Model RR Club, Montgomery/Prattville, AL,
Phil Hutchinson, (334) 272-1933
Alabama Model Railroad Association, Opelika, AL
Southeast Alabama Model Railroad Club, Dothan, AL, Chuck
Batherson (334) 677-3413

Empire Division

Empire Division, Richard Dalrymple, Macon, GA., (478) 471-8883 FAX -8994
Columbus Model Railroad Club, Columbus, GA., David Cotton
(706) 323-1417
Flint River Model Railroad Club, Albany, GA., Mike Frary
(912) 434-1746
Thomasville Model Railroad Club, Thomasville, GA.,
Ben Strickland (912) 465-3730

Gulf Division

Gulf Division, Ed Dice, Pensacola, FL, (850) 293-3532 cell - (850) 455-1313 home
Miracle Strip Model RR Club, Chris Beard, Shalimar, FL (850)-244-0161
[www.geocities.com/miraclestriprclub](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/miraclestriprclub) rafollaccchio@pcola.med.navy.mil
Emerald Coast Railway Club, Ed Dice, Milton, FL (850) 455-1313
EdwardDice@aol.com
West Florida Model Railroad Club, Keith Rapley, Milton, FL (850) 434-6374
West Florida Railroad Museum, Milton, FL
Pensacola Model Railroad Club, Pensacola, FL
Southwest Alabama Railroad Modelers (SWARM) Herb Kern - George Nelson,
Mobile, AL

Headquarters Division

Headquarters Division, Mark McAllister, Ringgold, GA., (706) 937-6337
<http://www.camrc.org>
Chattanooga Area Model Railroad Club, Dale Bryant dale.bryant@camrc.org
(423) 752-0141 or (423) 991-5243 www.camrc.org
Chattanooga Society of Model Engineers, Dunlap, TN
Andy Morrison (423) 344-8502
<http://csme.livesteamtrains.com>
Crossville Model Railroad Club, Crossville, TN, Mike Ferry (931) 788-1828

Land O'Sky Division

Land O' Sky Division, Charles Bryan, Weaverville, N.C., (828) 645-6896

Magnolia Division

Magnolia Division, Mike Barry, Pascagoula, MS., (228) 762-0929
Jackson Society of Model Engineers, Jackson, MS
Jackie Meck (601) 842-0909
www.jsme.org

MidSouth Division

Mid-South Division, Thomas Bailey, Fayetteville, TN., (931) 433-4207
<http://www.geocities.com/mta136/>
Redstone Model Railroad Club, Huntsville, AL

Palmetto Division

Palmetto Division, Howard R. Garner, Pickens, S.C., (864) 878-4705
Associated Model Railroads of Columbia, Columbia, SC
Jack Huffman 803-699-2518 or amroc.org for information.
Central Railway Model & Historical Association, Pickens, SC,
Howard R. Garner (864) 878-4705 hrgarner@innova.net

Piedmont Division

Piedmont Division, Bob McIntyre, Alpharetta, GA., (770) 518-8932
Georgia Association of Narrow Gaugers, Pat Turner (423) 744-0429
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/georgiangers>
GeorgiaNGers@yahoo.groups.com
North Georgia Lego Train Club, James Trobaugh (770)-844-1076
<http://www.ngltc.org> questions@ngltc.org
Chattahoochee Express Operating Group, Bob McIntyre (770) 518-8932
North Georgia Modurail, Jon Cook (770) 993-9620

Smoky Mountain Division

Smoky Mountain Division, Larry Brukholder, Knoxville, TN (865) 408-9903

Steel City Division

Steel City Division, Tom Schultz, Birmingham, AL, (205) 823-3888
Wrecking Crew Model RR Club, Bessemer, AL, 1004 West Lake Mall



Back before I moved to GA, Howard Goodwin and myself went up to see a friend of ours who had moved up the previous year. This was December 1983 and we three went up to look over the Clinchfield in Erwin, TN and see about touring the yard there. Well as luck would have it we did and the pictures below are from that trip. The significance of this is that the left hand photo is the washed-out background I am using on the "VP's Report" page and this is how it looks in normal format. The guy with the camera in the doorway is Howard Goodwin and the guy standing next to him as he checks out the engineer's controls is Doug Cline. Editor



Upcoming Events—

This is a list of all upcoming events that have been sent to the **SouthErneR**. Please submit info on your events occurring within the next year to the **SouthErneR** prior to the next deadline. For the most up-to-date information visit our website: Temporarily unavailable at this time.

NATIONAL:

2003 NMRA Convention: Maple Leaf 2003,
Toronto, CA
July 13 - 19, 2003

Sat. Sept. 20, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. CDT &
Sun. Sept. 21, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. CDT
Admission: \$4.00 for adults, under 12 free
Danny Lewis, 1217 Petty Street, Dothan, AL 36301
(334) 792-4979 E-mail: dannywls@yahoo.com

REGIONAL:

2004 SER Convention: Steel Rails Back To The Steel City
Bessemer Civic Center, Bessemer, AL
May 28-30, 2004

SER Board of Directors Meeting

DIVISIONAL:

Land O'Sky Division - Regular Meeting
First Thursday of Every Month, All Souls
Cathedral in Biltmore, NC,
7:00 pm. Until Concluded.

- Georgia -

Southeastern Model Railroaders Forum Meeting -
SMRFest 2003 Atlanta, Georgia, October 3, 4 and 5
Wingate Inn, 1355 Mall of Georgia Blvd., Buford, GA 30519
Phone: (678) 714 0248 - Ask for the SMRFest 2003 rate.
The fare for SMRFest 2003 is US\$20.00, check or money
order made payable to SMRFest 2003
Demetre Argiro, argirode@mindspring.com
SMRFest 2003 P.O. Box 1133, Grayson, GA. 30017

- Florida-

- Mississippi -

Jackson Society of Model Engineers
www.jsme.org
For info contact Jackie Meck at (601) 842-0909

- North Carolina -

- South Carolina -

Associated Model Railroads of Columbia
1800 Lincoln Street, Columbia, SC
Jack Huffman 803-699-2518 or amrc.org
Every Thursday from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
30 min. business meeting on first Thurs. of month
We welcome visitors and potential new members

- Tennessee -

Memphis Society of Model Railroad Engineers
First Saturday of Every Month
All Saints Episcopal Church at 1508
South White Station Road in
Memphis (Except in May!)
7:00 pm - Swap meet, videos,
how-to programs. Prototype, too!

Piedmont Division - Regular Meeting

2nd Tuesday of Every Month, Elks Lodge,
1775 Montreal Rd., Tucker
(Atlanta - East Side)

Smoky Mountain Division—Regular Meeting

1st & 3rd Sunday of every month
Oak Ridge Mall, Oak Ridge, TN
3-5 pm work or open house sessions
5-7 pm business meeting 3rd Sunday

Steel City Division - Regular Meeting

Third Thursday of Every Month,
Southside Branch
Public Library at 7:00 pm.
1814 11th Avenue South, Birmingham, AL

Local Shows and Events (Date Order by State):

- Alabama -

2003 Wiregrass Model Railroad Show and Sale
Dothan, AL, Wiregrass Heritage Chapter,
National Railway Historical Society

Send new information, modifications, or corrections to: **Melvin G. Sheppers** melmania@bellsouth.net



HELP!

Need some help with your model railroading? Why not give us a call! Get assistance with wiring, benchwork, scenery, locomotive repair, and even DCC! The service is free for all NMRA members, so give it a try!

Member Aid Chairman
Master Model Railroader Charles Brown
3 Springbrooke Trail, Dallas, GA 30157
(770) 943-5280
charliebrown@mindspring.com

IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

- Piedmont Port Authority Part 2**
- National Convention Report**
- National Contest Report**
- And much, much more!!!**



Future Contest Winning Models - Under Construction & On Display



Second Place
Structures On-Line
Ben Bartlett



First Place
Structures On-Line
Sam Swanson



Tennessee Bound 2003



Favorite Train Contest Winners - 1st, 2nd & 3rd - All are Phil Hutchinson's



The SouthErneR
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