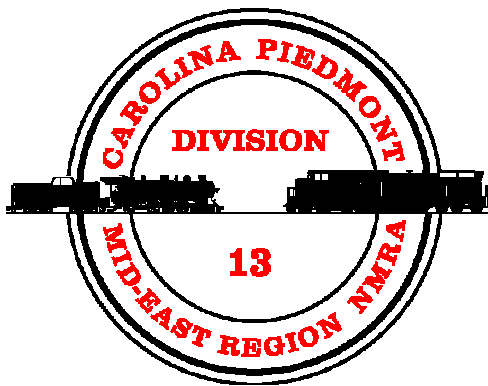


The Carolina Piedmont Herald

June 2008 Newsletter of the Carolina Piedmont Division, MER, NMRA



Carolina Piedmont Division, Mid-Eastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association



Contents

Division Meeting Notice.....	1
Program.....	1
Popular Vote Contest.....	1
CPD 13 Contact List.....	1
Paymaster's Report.....	1
Minutes of last month's Board Meeting.....	1
Upcoming Events.....	1
From The Business Car.....	4

©2000 Carolina Piedmont Division, Inc.

<http://www.cpd13.org/>

The Carolina Piedmont Herald is published monthly by the Carolina Piedmont Division, Mid-East Region, of the National Model Railroad Association. **Submissions:** Please send news items, inquiries, and comments to the Editor of the Herald by the 15th of the month:

Robert Rousseau

6428 Cross Ridge Drive

Holly Springs, NC 27540

919-368-0586 or railroad@nc.rr.com

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the author of each article or the Editor of the Carolina Piedmont Herald and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Carolina Piedmont Division.

Division Meeting

Tuesday, June 24, 2008 at 7:00pm.
Cary Senior Center, Room 302
120 Maury O'Dell Place, Cary, NC
Board of Directors Meeting at 6pm.
Division Meeting follows at 7pm.

June Program

Dan Fisher - Modeling Steel Structures

Popular Vote Contest

June: Icing Structures

Bring anything related to the icing industry.

Contest Guidelines available on the CPD13 web site, or contact Vic Bitleris at 919-870-7558.

Paymaster's Report

Submitted by John Rudisill
Division Paymaster

May 2008

Balance 4/30/08	\$ 4,070.07
Income	
NMRA Rebate	\$ 65.50
Total	\$ 65.50
Expenses	
May Refreshments	\$ 16.44
Copier Service	\$ 7.15
Donations to Hope Lutheran Church for use of their facilities	\$ 25.00
Total	\$ 48.59
Balance 5/31 Checking	\$ 4,086.98
Certificate of Deposit	\$5,462.60
Maturity Date 7/13/08	@3.46%
Total CPD 13 Funds	\$ 9,549.58

Upcoming Events

July 13 – 20, 2008 NMRA National Convention and Train Show. Anaheim, CA. More info is here: <http://www.nmra.org/2008/>

CPD 13 Contact List

Superintendent

John Janosko..... 562-0260
johnajan@earthlink.net

Assistant Superintendent

Pete Slugg 234-3348
pslugg@nc.rr.com

Division Clerk

Grif Bond 556-7066
grifbond@embarqmail.com

Division Paymaster

John Rudisill..... 934-7029
Jrudi123@aol.com

Director (Term ending in January 2010)

Vic Bitleris 870-7558
vbitleris@nc.rr.com

Director (Term ending in January 2011)

Jerry Mersch 467-7107
jbmswow@nc.rr.com

Director (Term ending in January 2009)

Joe Getz..... 864-1140
i4getz@aol.com

Meeting Minutes

May 27th, 2008

Board of Directors Meeting

Officers and board members present – Superintendent John Janosko, Assistant Superintendent Pete Slugg, Clerk Grif Bond, Paymaster John Rudisill and Directors Vic Bitleris and Jerry Mersch. Division members

Dick Buchan, Dave Derway and John Wallace and were present at the start of the meeting. Chuck Hladick, Mid-Eastern Region Director, was a guest.

The Board of Directors (BOD) meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM by Superintendent Janosko. Motion made by Bitleris with second by Rudisill to approve the minutes of the April meetings. Motion passed 6-0. Motion made by Slugg with a second by Bitleris to approve the April Paymaster’s report. Motion passed 6-0.

Reports presented:

Achievement program (AP) – Bitleris advised the BOD of the strong member turnout for the AP judging session held on Saturday, 26 April 2008 at Gene Sing’s residence. Judging ran until about 7:30 PM. Merit awards were awarded to Gene Sing for his timber trestle and to Dan Fisher for his pulpwood mill storage “stock chest”. The event also included 2 new apprentice judges.

Norfolk Southern PS-1 box car – Superintendent Janosko advised the CPD13 check has been sent and we are waiting for artwork from Bowser to review. The prototype NS box car has black ends. To produce the black ends on the car along with white numbers would be an additional \$2.00 per car to our cost. Janosko advised he made an executive decision to not have the car made with black ends.

Project raffle layout – Luan doors have been ordered. Forging table legs will be used to support the doors.

Superintendent Janosko explained to the BOD the outcome of the meeting with the Mid-Eastern Region BOD and Stephen Wood on Saturday, 26

April 2008, at the Hope Lutheran Church in Wake Forest.

A motion was made by Bond with a second by Mersch to provide a \$25.00 donation to the Hope Lutheran Church, Wake Forest, in appreciation of the use of their facility for the 26 April 2008. Motion passed 5-0-1.

Assistant Superintendent Slugg advised the meetings for June, July and August will be held in room 302 at the Cary Senior Center. The June program will be “Modeling Steel Structures”, presented by Dan Fisher. The June contest will be “icing structures”. The July program will be “Amateur Radio and Railroads” presented by Rob Rousseau. The July contest will be “yard offices and line side parts”. The August program will be “Trucks, Wheels and Couplers” by John Wallace. The August contest will be “waterfront structures”.

In support of our agreement with the Cary Senior Center, Kim Parker will provide a clinic/presentation for seniors in the fall of 2008 and a switching layout demonstration is planned for the spring of 2009.

The BOD discussed the appointment of an Audit Committee as outlined in the by-laws. Motion made by Bond with second by Bitleris to appoint Assistant Superintendent Slugg (representing a director position) and Dick Buchan (representing a non-director position). Motion passed 5-1. The Audit Committee will review the division’s 2007 financial statements and records and report back to the BOD and membership.

Clerk Bond discussed the need to update the division’s address of record and registered agent with the North Carolina Secretary of State’s

Office. Bond will complete the forms and make the filing.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

**Division Meeting
27 May 2008**

The Division meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Superintendent Janosko. He reviewed the discussion and actions from the earlier Board of Directors meeting.

Superintendent Janosko explained the outcome of the meeting with the Mid-Eastern Region BOD and Stephen Wood on Saturday, 26 April 2008, at the Hope Lutheran Church in Wake Forest. It was explained that the CPD13 bylaws were not followed properly with regard to Stephen Wood’s membership status, thus the actions previously taken were null and void. Both parties acknowledged mistakes and inappropriate actions. It was agreed to “re-set back to zero” and/or “clean the slate”. Stephen Wood remains as a member in good standing.

Reports presented:

Achievement program – Vic Bitleris informed the membership of the strong turnout for the AP judging session held on Saturday, 26 April 2008 at Gene Sing’s residence. Judging ran until about 7:30 PM. Merit awards were awarded to Gene Sing for his timber trestle and to Dan Fisher for his pulpwood mill storage “stock chest”. The event also included 2 new apprentice judges. Thanks were expressed to Gene Sing for hosting the event.

Norfolk Southern PS-1 box car – Superintendent Janosko advised the CPD13 check has been sent and we

are waiting for artwork from Bowser to review. Four (4) individual numbers will be available through CPD13 and an additional/different four (4) numbers will be available from the Norfolk Southern Historical Society. A total of 400 cars will be produced, 200 for each organization. It was recently identified that the prototype NS box car has black ends. To produce the car with black ends with white numbers would be an additional \$2.00 per car. Janosko advised he made an executive decision to not have the car made with black ends.

Project raffle layout – Luan doors have been ordered. Forging table legs will be used to support the doors.

Fall home layout tour – Don Jennings is coordinating. Timeframe is early–mid October, the first or second weekend. So far, 3 members have expressed interest in participating. Members interested in opening their home layouts for the tour should contact Don.

Holiday Trains for Kids – Dave Derway shared photographs of several of the train set recipients of the Christmas 2007 program.

2008 National N Scale Convention – John Wallace advised the N Scale National Convention will be held in Louisville, Kentucky on June 25-29. The NTRAK layout is projected to be 200 feet by 250 feet with a main line of approximated 3,850 feet. The main line equates to about 117 miles in N scale.

Superintendent Janosko advised the membership of the appointment of Assistant Superintendent Slugg and Dick Buchan to the Audit Committee to review the division's financial

statements and records. The Audit Committee will review the division's 2007 financial statements and records and report back to the BOD and membership.

Assistant Superintendent Slugg advised the meetings for June, July and August will be held in room 302 at the Cary Senior Center. The June program will be "Modeling Steel Structures", presented by Dan Fisher. The June contest will be "icing structures". The July program will be "Amateur Radio and Railroads" presented by Rob Rousseau. The July contest will be "yard offices and line side parts". The August program will be "Trucks, Wheels and Couplers" by John Wallace. The August contest will be "waterfront structures".

The membership also discussed a possible August meeting location at the NCDOT rail yard in Raleigh. Tom Cook and Rob Rousseau agreed to check with their contacts to see if this is could be scheduled.

Chuck Hladick explained the new membership recruitment program offer by the Mid-Eastern Region (MER). The MER has allocated \$2,000 to cover the individual \$9.95 cost of "Rail Pass" NMRA memberships. The program runs until the end of 2008 or when the \$2,000 limit is met. Details can be found the MER publication "The Local". Completed forms should be sent to Fred Miller, MER Business Manager, Charlotte, NC.

Superintendent Janosko presented a clinic on "Modeling Rock Formations with Ceiling Tiles".

There was one entry in the monthly contest. Vic Bitleris won for his pickle/vinegar car. He received a

\$10.00 gift certificate from Train Buddy Products.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Recorded by Grif Bond, Clerk

Modeling with Ceiling Tiles

by John Janosko

While growing up in Western Pennsylvania, I was always fascinated by the rock strata in the Allegheny Mountains and along the banks of the Monongahela, Youghiogheny, and Allegheny rivers that I saw while traveling on the various roads in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Later as I grew up and really got into Model Railroading scenery, I finally saw how you could reproduce some of these strata by using old ceiling tile.

The cost of making this scenery is rather small. You can usually get some old ceiling tile at construction sites or in a recent case with me, was that I saw a janitor was replacing some tiles at Capital Ford. I was working at the Enterprise branch that day and asked him what he was going to do with the old tile. He said he was going to throw it away. I asked if I could have it and he asked why? After explaining that I was going to make some hills for a friend's layout, he gave me about a dozen pieces of tile.

The supplies you need are ceiling tile, liquid nails, some water base latex house paint that has a dirt like color (you can get this at Home Depot or Lowes for \$5.00 at the return paint

area), wire brush, dental picks, oil base artist paints, thinning solvent for oil paint, ground foam, various ground covers from Woodland Scenics and Scenery Express.

To start you get some tile and put a piece on a solid table or bench and hit the tile gently with your hand or fist. This will provide a ragged edge. Any small pieces that break off can also be used. One place I do want a straight edge is if you are going to use some rocks near the back drop of a layout, you will need to have the straight edge next to the back drop. I use a carpenter's razor knife to cut a straight line through the ceiling tile. After breaking some tiles, you will want to stack the broken tiles on top of one another until you get the desired strata pattern and height for your layout.

When I get the desired effect, I then use liquid nails to bond the levels together. After gluing set a heavy object (The gallon paint can will work) on top and let it set for at least a day.

After the rock formation has set, I then take a wire brush and scrape the rough side or sides of the ceiling tile. At this time if you want gulleys, river lets or cracks, you can use various dental picks to get the desired results that you want. Do this in the garage or someplace that will not get you in the dog house with your wife, as you will create quite a bit of dust. After cleaning up the dust, I paint the rock formation with latex paint. This seals the tile and provides you with a base color for your formation.

After waiting a few days for the paint to completely dry, we then can start staining the formation. I like to use oil stains because when used properly

it provides a wet look to the strata. I remember that most of these rocks always had some dripping water running over the rocks, except in the hot summer months. If you want you could use water base paints, but to me they do not give the same look. The colors you use are the various browns and yellows. I also use some green stains on the top of the formation and black mixed with white for coal seams that are very prominent in the Appalachian Mountains. Play with some color mixes and if you do not like the results paint over them. I usually touch up the formations several times, until I get the results I want. Remember that Mother Nature gives you a lot more leeway than someone building a scratch brass locomotive.

Now is when I start adding ground foam, scenic grass, brush, vines and various trees to finish off the scene.

You can get pictures of the Appalachian Mountain chain from various magazines, internet or take your own when out on the road. This is a really easy and inexpensive way to make this kind of scenery and if you make a mistake it is not that hard to redo.

Happy rock building.

Artwork by Andrew Ross

The following three photos will be on exhibit this coming Thursday in addition to others from Andrew's *Transience* series photographs. As Andrew puts it, he is attempting to view these scenes from outside our normal view of perspective. What

makes these unusual is that they almost appear to be from a diorama, but are not. They allow us to see the details in real life from a scaled viewpoint. Go online and look at the "Haven of Rest" photo for another good example. *-Editor*

Adam Cave Fine Art, 115-1/2 East Hargett St., 2nd Floor, Raleigh.

Opening reception Thursday, June 26th, 6-9pm. 919-838-6692 Gallery runs from June 20th-August 5th. <http://www.andrewross.com/>



From The Business Car

It seems that it can not be that half of the year is already gone. Wasn't only last week we were worried about the cold weather. Now we have broken 100 degrees several days in June. I think I like the colder weather better.

The beginning of the month I was visiting one of my daughters in Arkansas and one day we went to Eureka Springs. Eureka Springs is in the Northwest Corner of Arkansas and was once a place that people went to in the summertime to get away from the heat and for the healing springs that are all over the immediate area. There is a lot of old Victoria houses that have been restored and of course a railroad.

It seems that the Missouri Pacific provided passenger service to this area for many years. The rails are still there, but now it is the Eureka Springs and Northwestern Arkansas RR. The RR provides rides on about a 4 ½ mile line during the day. They also have a lunch and dinner train. There is also a lot of old equipment plus a steam locomotive and a turntable. The line comes to an end at the bottom of a gorge in Eureka Springs. In my mind it is a great area to model especially if you are modeling a mountainous type layout. If you are ever in that part of the state it is a great place to visit.

Remember we will be meeting on Tuesday the 24th. Hope to see you all there. It may seem a little early, but remember that in October the MER convention will be in Northern Virginia. Sign up now and that way you will not have to rush later in the year.

John Janosko
Division Superintendent

Carolina Piedmont Division
Robert Rousseau, Editor
6428 Cross Ridge Drive
Holly Springs, NC 27540

