



Division Meeting

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Cary Senior Center
Fred G. Bond Metro Park
120 Maury O'Dell Place
Cary, NC

6:00 PM – Board of Directors Meeting

7:00 PM – Membership Meeting

Program

Updating Brass Locomotives

Speaker – Dan Fisher

Popular Vote Contest

Anything but a Caboose

(A creative use for retired caboose)

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Region of the NMRA

The Carolina Piedmont Herald is published monthly by the Carolina Piedmont Division, Mid-Eastern 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:

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919-556-7066

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.

Coming Events

September 26 – 27, "Old 97 Rail Days", Danville, VA, check the town's web site for details:

<http://www.visitdanville.com/event.asp?id=4321>

October 2 – 3, Selma Railroad Days, Selma, NC, for information, see the town's website <http://www.selma-nc.com> or contact Joe Carter 919-975-1411

October 15 – 18, "Western Maryland Transfer", 2009 Mid-Eastern Region Convention, Hagerstown, MD, check the convention web site for details:
<http://mer.nmra.org/MERConv/MERConv.html>

October 31, "Virginia Autumn Special" excursion train departs from Spencer, NC at 7 AM for a full day trip to Charlottesville, VA and return.

November 1, "Blue Ridge Special" excursion train departs from Spencer, NC at 7 AM to for a full day trip to Asheville, NC and return.

For details on both excursions, see the NC Transportation Museum's web site,
<http://www.nctrans.org/events/excursion.php>

November 7 – 8, 25th Annual Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Train Club Show, Exposition Center, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC, check the club's web site for details: <http://www.nrvshow.org/>

Editor's note - Before traveling any distance to an event listed, it is recommended you verify the event is still scheduled by checking the event's web site or calling the local contact.

Board of Directors

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Paymaster's Report

Submitted by John Rudisill, Division Paymaster
August 2009

Balance in Checking July 31, 2009 \$ 2,573.39

Income:

Embarq contribution	\$ 250.00
(In recognition of Grif Bond's 30 years of service)	
Sale of donated items on EBay	\$ 100.00
Sale of NS cars	\$ 25.00
Sale of Kits for Modular Building Contest	\$ 30.00

(This \$30 has been put in the Petty Cash Fund for the \$5 rebate for those who enter a structure in the contest. Cash Fund is now \$140.)

Total + \$ 405.00

Expenses:

Harland Clarke Checks for CPD	\$ 120.47
August Refreshments	\$ 19.62

Total - \$ 140.09

Balance in Checking August 31, 2009 \$ 2,838.30

Certificate of Deposit \$ 5,583.90
(Maturity Date 1/17/2010)

Total Money \$ 8,422.20

Meeting Minutes

Editor's note – The meeting minutes for both the Board of Directors and the Division Meetings are "preliminary" and subject to correction and approval by the Board of Directors at the next scheduled meeting. Please notify the Clerk of any corrections. Thanks.

Board of Directors Meeting 25 August 2009

The Board of Directors (BOD) meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Superintendent John Janosko.

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

Motion made by Wallis with second by Bitleris to approve the minutes of the July meetings with one correction for a misspelling. Motion passed 7-0. Motion made by Wallis with a second by Bitleris to approve the July Paymaster's report. Motion passed 7-0. Paymaster Rudisill advised the BOD that EMBARQ Corporation had provided a donation of \$250 in recognition of the 30 year service anniversary of Grif Bond. He also indicated a new supply of checks had been ordered.

Bitleris advised the BOD of no pending activity for the Achievement Program.

Superintendent Janosko indicated he would be taking some NS box car kits to the MER convention in October for sale in the company store.

The BOD discussed the rules for the industrial building project (Walthers modular kit) and agreed to a change. Motion made by Bond with a second by Mersch to allow the display based to be a maximum of 24 inches by 36 inches for HO scale displays and 24 inches by 18 inches for N scale displays. Motion passed 7-0.

A work day for the raffle layout was set up for August 29 at 9 AM at Gene Sing's house.

The CPD13 switching layout presentation/program for the Cary Senior Center is scheduled for Tuesday, November 17th, 1:00 – 4:00 PM. Railroad lanterns will also be displayed. Don Jennings and Gene Sing are coordinating.

The white elephant sale will be October 27th, 6:30 PM – 7:45 PM.

The new member welcome letter was reviewed and a motion was made by Bitleris with a second by Slugg to have the Clerk send the letter via U.S. Mail to new members. Motion passed 7-0.

Superintendent Janosko advised that all the officer positions and one director position would be up for election at the January 2010 meeting. Wallis and Mersch are the members of the nominating committee.

Wallis reviewed the recent changes to the Division's website. The list of members along with their photos was removed. Officer photos and contact information will be posted. Motion made by Wallis with a second by Mersch to post officer photos (with permission of the officer). Motion passed 7-0. Wallis agreed to work on guidelines for a member profile section to allow members to post their photographs and web links to their modeling information.

Motion made by Bond with a second by Mersch to not post the Division membership information roster on the CPD13 Yahoo Groups page. Motion passed 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM. Recorded by Grif Bond, Clerk.

Division Meeting 25 August 2009

The Division meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Superintendent John Janosko. 33 Division members were in attendance.

Superintendent Janosko reviewed the discussion and actions from the earlier Board of Directors meeting including the November 17th presentation at the Cary Senior Center, the white elephant sale on October 27th and the upcoming January 2010 vacancies for officers and one board member.

Clerk Bond explained the BOD approval of a minor rule change for industrial building project contest (Walthers modular kit). The display base for HO scale models will be a maximum of 24 inches by 36 inches and a maximum of 24 inches by 18 inches for N scale models.

A raffle layout workday is planned for Saturday, August 28th at Gene Sing's house.

Assistant Superintendent Pete Slugg reviewed the upcoming popular vote contests and programs. The January 2010 popular vote contest will be "winter scenes".

Mason Cutchin presented a clinic on "Lost Wax Castings". He provided a detailed handout on how the process works, explained the steps with a series of steel flasks showing the sequence of steps from the original wax pattern to the finished casting. He also demonstrated the use of centrifugal force to force metal into the flask. Small circle emblems with the number "13" were distributed to members.

The popular vote winner was a HO scale engine house constructed and detailed by Pete Slugg.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM. Recorded by Grif Bond, Clerk.

The Closet Workshop

article and photos by Jack Dziadul

With each succeeding modeling project my work area expands and gets more cluttered while the actual useable work surface diminishes. One of Murphy's Laws must be at play here. I decided to call time out this weekend and allow myself a do-over. As background, I am constructing an HO scale layout in a spare bedroom. After much domestic debate I was able to secure what was once guest quarters in exchange for painting the yard shed white to match the house: instead of my preferred Boston & Maine station color scheme. With the bedroom, of course, came a closet. The 4 X 4 closet was just right for a small helix to a planned second deck. But, if I want to see trains running in my lifetime the helix and second deck can wait. The more pressing need is for an organized work space with tools and materials where I can find them without a Boy Scout and field maps.

The first order of business was to clean everything out of the closet except for the wire shelving that the builder so thoughtfully provided. In came a child's desk, a precious find from one of my early morning neighborhood jogs on trash day. This provided a clean work surface and some open storage.

The real estate market being what it is, I have brokerage signs galore that are gathering cobwebs. I cut one of them up into an "L" shape (I never did sell those twenty acres). I used this as a topper for the wire shelving unit so supplies would have a level surface and small items would not fall through.



And then there are those rascally little bottles of paint. I have seen several variations of homemade "spice racks" that seemed to work very well. So, I sorted through my white-painted shed and found 1 X 2s and some yard sticks. I constructed some simple shelves, very conveniently 36" long. The yard sticks made for a nice lip that would keep the bottles where they belong. Three was the perfect number for the small paint bottle inventory.



I also made a 36 inch shelf for various adhesives. Two additional shelves of 48 inches each were placed above the wire rack. You can see from the photographs how these shelves were organized. It is important to keep glass containers at lower levels, although I fudged a bit on this safety principle with some baby food jars full of scenery materials that I picked up at an auction. When measuring where to install the shelves I made sure that I had sufficient "head-room" to accommodate the size of supplies I had intended for that particular place. It was beneficial to also test fit to make sure that the shelves were wide enough for the intended storage.



An extra bonus with my closet is a small nook with one wire shelf. I constructed three additional shelves with the top and bottom areas for bulk storage. As to the wire shelf in this nook, I thought that I would do something novel: use it for clothes storage. You know, for those shirts and hats that you would never wear except when attending a train related event. I'll now even be able to find my "operating" apron and my name tag when I need them. I retained the most convenient shelf for my frequently used tools. With track over the desk work surface complete with coupler height gage and the entire desk surface to spread my project out on I am ready for some serious modeling. This was a simple and quick weekend project. Now for some uninterrupted time...



Modular Building Contest Update

Based on a feedback from a couple of members the BOD updated the rules for the modular building contest. The maximum display board size for HO scale is now 24" by 36". The N scale maximum is 24" by 18". This change should allow for building a larger structure or an industrial complex. Happy building!

As of the August Division meeting, 28 Walthers modular building kits have been sold (23 in HO and 5 in N). Only 2 HO kits remain. Kits will be available at the September and October meetings and sold on a first come, first serve basis. The contest will be held at the March 2010 meeting.

2009 Monthly Contests

- September "Anything but a caboose"
- October Cranes and crane tenders
- November Signal towers and equipment
- December No contest – brown bag gift night

2009 Program Topics

- September Updating Brass Locomotives
Speaker – Dan Fisher
- October Airbrushing with Acrylics -
Speaker – Vic Bitleris
- November Detection and Signaling –
Speaker TBD
- December "Holiday Brown Bag Gift Night"

Railroad Archeology - The Baggage Shed

article and photos by Jack Dziadul

I do quite a bit of both personal and business traveling and I almost always have a camera with me. You never know what opportunities you will have to capture some modeling ideas. Several months ago I read about an old freight shed that had been relocated from Lord's Square in Ipswich, MA to a nearby private residence.

I was determined to find that on a future trip. The future was today as I pulled into the driveway of one the many historic homes in Ipswich. I confirmed with the teenager in the back yard that the shed was in fact an old railroad building. I asked permission to take some photographs and the boy beckoned his father to deal with this stranger. Mr. Bob Hegarty was very friendly and I shot away after he moved an automobile out of the way. He opened up the doors and I took a few interior pictures as well.

This little treasure will be a neat scratch building project. It is a basic box with gable roof, one man-door, two windows and one sliding freight door. I took photos of the details and will need to follow up with measurements. I need to remember to pack a tape measure next time. According to Bob, this circa 1860 building was a baggage freight house. The shed was the place of employment for the same station agent for fifty years. Legend has it that when Mr. Lord retired the station was closed. The retired agent said that he never wanted to see that shed again. Shortly thereafter he saw it being moved down the street to his neighbor's house where it sits to this day.

The shed is presently used for household storage, but was until five years ago used as a retail gift shop. As far as architectural integrity, the interior was finished with sheetrock on the walls and ceiling, but the wide plank flooring was original. The exterior clapboards were also original as evidenced by the square nail heads, plus Mr. Hegarty's testimony that he removed fifteen layers of paint during his restoration.

One of the windows is modern and the exterior lighting fixtures are not original features. Given its location and age this building would have begun its life as property of the Eastern Railroad and retired as an asset of the Boston & Maine.



From the Business Car

by John Janosko, Division Superintendent

This last weekend, I helped Train Buddy at the Great Train Expo in Raleigh and next week we have it to do over again in Virginia Beach. That reminded me that the NRV show is coming up in November and we will need some volunteers to man our three tables at the show. I will have a sign up sheet at the meeting. Please help if you can. Also if you have something you want to sell let us know, since we will have limited space.

I would like to thank Mason for the excellent clinic on lost wax castings last month. It was very informative. The way the clinics have been going lately is that they get better each month. Thanks Pete for getting all the clinics together.

On Labor Day weekend the Steel Mill SIG had there annual meeting in Raleigh this year. On Saturday they had 5 home layouts on display. I was helping with Dick Buchan's layout and got to meet some very interesting people from all parts of the country plus Canada and England. It is great when you get a chance to interface with other model railroaders that you have just met for the first time. If you are thinking about going to the MER convention, you may get a chance to meet some people that could turn out to be friends for years to come.

See you Tuesday.