



# The Carolina Piedmont Herald

Newsletter of the Carolina Piedmont Division, MER, NMRA

April 2011

## Next Division Meeting

Tuesday, April 26, 2010

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

**6:30 PM – Board of Directors Meeting**  
**7:00 PM – Membership Meeting**

### Popular Vote Contest

Sponsored by Kim Parker of Train Buddy  
Hobby Shop

April contest- Freight Cars

©2010 Carolina Piedmont Division of the Mid-Eastern  
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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month:

Jack Dziadul, Clerk and Editor  
[dziadul@windstream.net](mailto:dziadul@windstream.net)  
919-721-8757

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.

## Welcome New Member

**Bob Reschke** Hope Mills, NC

## April Program

"Gimme A Brake" -Vic Bitleris

## Achievement Program

AP Chairman **Vic Bitleris** presents the Association Volunteer Certificate of Achievement to **Jack Dziadul** at the March meeting.



Jim Murphy photo



## Board of Directors

### *Superintendent*

**Grif Bond**, Wake Forest, 919-556-7066  
grifbond@embarqmail.com

### *Assistant Superintendent*

**Jim Murphy**, Cary, 919-460-7763

berkshireshort@yahoo.com

### *Division Clerk*

**Jack Dziadul**, Sanford, 919-721-8757  
dziadul@windstream.net

### *Division Paymaster*

**John Rudisill**, Clayton, 919-934-7029  
Jrudi123@aol.com

### *Director (term ending in January 2012)*

**John Wallis**, Apex, 919-387-0325  
wallisjm@att.net

### *Director (term ending in January 2013)*

**Vic Bitleris**, Raleigh, 919-870-7558  
vbitleris@nc.rr.com

### *Director (term ending in January 2014)*

**Rob Rousseau**, Holly Springs, 919-368-0586  
railroad@nc.rr.com

## Contest Winner

**Jim Murphy's** detailed vehicles took the vote.



Jack Dziadul photo

## Coming Events

April 30, 2011

Model Railroaders Swap Meet, Mt. Pleasant, NC  
David Ward [dbwrailway@gmail.com](mailto:dbwrailway@gmail.com)

September 3-5, 2011

2011 RailOps along the I-85 Corridor

September 7-10, 2011

Narrow Gauge Convention, Hickory, NC

October 14-16, 2011

Saluda Rails Operations Weekend, Hickory, NC

October 27-30, 2011

Piedmont Crossing, MER Convention, Cary, NC

### **NMRA National Conventions**

2011	7/3 - 7/9	Sacramento, CA
2012	7/29 - 8/4	Grand Rapids, MI
2013	7/14 - 7/20	Atlanta, GA
2014		Cleveland, OH

### **MER Convention Host Calendar**

2011	Div. 13 Carolina Piedmont, Cary, NC
2012	Tidewater
2013	Potomac / Chesapeake

*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.*



## Monthly Contests

April	Freight Cars
May	Passenger Cars
June	Diesel Locomotive

## Program Topics

April	"Gimme A Brake"- <b>Vic Bitleris</b>
May	Putting on a Clinic - <b>Jim Murphy</b>
June	Hosting an Open House - <b>Don Jennings</b>

## Refreshment Hosts

April	<b>John Porter</b>
May	<b>Jerry Mersch</b>
June	<b>Dave Derway</b>
July	<i>your name goes here</i>

## CPD Meeting Calendar

Tuesday nights monthly 2011  
 6:30 PM Board of Directors  
 7:00 PM General Meeting

April 26	May 24	June 28
July 26	August 23	September 27
October 25	November 8	December 13

## Piedmont Crossing Planning Meetings 2011

Saturday meetings monthly, 10 AM.  
 Weekly meetings are likely beginning in September.

June 4	Host: <b>Jack Dziadul</b>
June 25	Host: <b>Gene Sing</b>
July 16	
August 20	
September	3, 10, 17, 24
October	1, 8, 15, 22
Convention	<b>October 27 to 30, 2011</b>

## Vehicle Contest Entries

Jack Dziadul photos





## Tichy Train Group Tour

Article and photos by Jack Dziadul

Carolina Piedmont and Carolina Southern members enjoyed a tour of Don Tichy's new factory. Don was justifiably proud of his facility and the production equipment that delivers detail parts and freight car kits to hobby shop shelves. Thank you for your hospitality, Don!

Don Tichy, right.



Left to right: **Gene Sing, Don, Vic Bitleris, Joe Getz, Steve August, Don Hamrick, Charlie Fleishman, David Ward**



Left to right: **Gary Holly, Don, Mark Blaustein, Jack Haynes, David Ward, Steve Milley, Dick Buchan.**



**Chuck Hladik** holding a Safety Cage Ladder and Stair sprue



Don's daughter, Heather, is ringing up sales from **Vic Bitleris** and **Dave Chance**.



**Mark Blaustein** and **Dick Buchan** are checking out the inventory.



Don is doing what he enjoys most.



Here is a lifetime supply of grab irons.



**Dick Buchan** is looking through the latest catalogue.



## Chesapeake Operations

Superintendent **Kurt Thompson** has extended an invitation to CPD members to participate in three operating sessions on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. If interested contact Russ Forte at [web.chesdivmernmra@gmail.com](mailto:web.chesdivmernmra@gmail.com).

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Achievement Program

Our only two Master Model Railroaders have moved out of state. But, we have more MMRs in the making. Look for articles and photographs throughout 2011 from members who are taking the AP challenge as they hone their skills and learn new ones.

## Minutes March 22, 2011

### Board of Directors Meeting

Present: **Grif Bond, Jim Murphy, Jack Dziadul, Jerry Mersch, Vic Bitleris, John Wallis, Rob Rousseau**. The meeting convened at 6:30 PM.

1. February minutes tabled.
2. February financial report tabled.
3. 2011 budget tabled.
4. The Paymaster position was discussed due to **John Rudisill's** extended illness. On motion of **John Wallis** and second by **Vic Bitleris Jerry Mersch** was appointed to the new position of Assistant Paymaster.
5. **Rob Rousseau** raised the issue of web presence including improvements to the web site, utilization of social networking sites such as Facebook, etc. These matters will be considered further after the Piedmont Crossing convention.
6. **Grif Bond** raised the issue of contributing to the NMRA Diamond Club fundraising program. The issue was tabled pending further resolution of the Paymaster and budget issues.

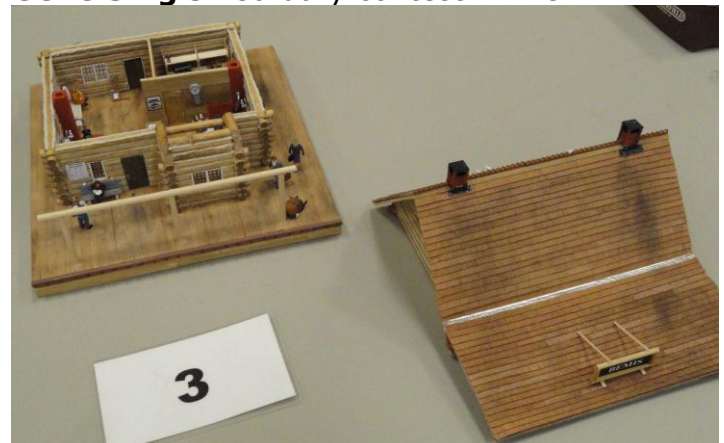
7. NMRA Insurance – **Grif Bond** distributed insurance program information to the Board members.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

### Membership Meeting

1. **Grif Bond** reviewed the Board of Directors meeting.
2. AP Chairman **Vic Bitleris** presented the Volunteer Award to **Jack Dziadul**.
3. **Grif Bond** reviewed the upcoming Piedmont Crossing committee meeting schedule and the updated convention web site was discussed.
4. **Jack Dziadul** reviewed the details of the upcoming Tichy Train Group factory tour.
5. **Steve Milley** provided a raffle layout update. Four GP 30 locomotives were purchased at a discount and a volunteer is needed to paint them. A work schedule was scheduled for Sunday.
6. **Jim Murphy** reviewed the upcoming contests and programs. The April contest is freight cars and the program will be "Gimme a Brake" by **Vic Bitleris**. The May contest will be passenger cars, and the program will be "How to put on a clinic" by **Jim Murphy**. The June contest will be diesel locomotives. The program will be "Hosting a Layout Tour", by **Don Jennings**.
7. **Dan Fisher** presented the video program on O. Winston Link.
8. **Jim Murphy** was the contest winner for his detailed and weathered vehicles.

**Gene Sing's** February contest winner.



**Vic Bitleris** presents the Chief Dispatcher AP Certificate to **Stephen Wood**.



**Will Seehorn's** February foam scenery clinic.



The preceding three photos are courtesy of Jim Murphy.

## Financial Report

### Checking Account

Balance 12/31/2010	\$7,536.10
Income Jan - March	\$ -0-
Expenses Jan - March	\$ -0-
Balance 3/31/2011	\$7,536.10

By **Grif Bond**, Superintendent 4/22/11

## NMRA InfoNet News

By **Gerry Leone**, MMR, NMRA Communications Director.

Welcome to the April 2011 edition!

- Plans for The Gallery Exhibit at the California State Railroad Museum are moving into high gear. To date, organizing and fund raising actions have raised two pledges of matching funds from anonymous NMRA member donors. One donation is for \$50,000 and the other is for \$250,000. Current plans call for the exhibit to be opened by the end of 2012. You'll find out all the details of the exhibit in the May issue of *NMRA Magazine*.
- A special "carpet cutting ceremony" (the indoor equivalent of a Ground Breaking Ceremony) for the Gallery Exhibit will be held on Thursday evening during the x2011 Convention. All are invited.
- Speaking of x2011, if you haven't yet registered for the x2011 West NMRA Convention to be held in Sacramento in July, you should register now! If you have already registered, it is time to sign up for tours and operating sessions before they fill up! For more information and / or to register or sign up for tours, go to [www.x2011west.org](http://www.x2011west.org).
- The "Members-Only" area of [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) is currently open to all members. Although content is still being added, right now the area houses copies of all Region and Division articles cited within the last year by Jim Zinser in his bi-monthly "Division Business Car / NMRA@Home" column in *NMRA*

*Magazine*. In addition, the "NMRA Magazine classics" section of the Members-Only area will contain classic articles from *Scale Rails* magazine and *The Bulletin*. We'll be adding new material all the time so check back often.

- The NMRA remains active with the two model railroad podcasts mentioned in a previous edition of the InfoNet News. The NMRA is now sponsoring "The Model Railway Show" podcast produced by well-known modelers Trevor Marshall and Jim Martin. Their website is [www.themodelrailwayshow.com](http://www.themodelrailwayshow.com). And Board member Clark Koonig, along with other NMRA members, continues to appear as a regular guest on the "Model Rail Radio" podcast. Their website is at [www.modelrailradio.com](http://www.modelrailradio.com). Both of these podcasts can be downloaded directly from their websites or via iTunes.
- We're still looking for stories of what your Division or region does for National Model Railroad Month. Write a 200-word summary and send it to me at [gerryleone@earthlink.net](mailto:gerryleone@earthlink.net). Thanks. (Editor's note: **Jack Dziadul** has submitted a summary of the raffle layout project and is also submitting a summary of the presentation to the Cary Senior Citizen's center.)
- Notice of 2012 Elections. The following NMRA Officers and Board of Directors positions are open for election in 2012: President, Vice president-Administration, Vice president-Special Projects, Eastern District Director, Pacific District Director, and At-Large North America Director. Please check the NMRA Executive Handbook located at [http://www.nmra.org/national/organization/nmra\\_organization.html](http://www.nmra.org/national/organization/nmra_organization.html) for the extent of the districts affected and the qualifications. All candidates' names for consideration by the Nominations Committee shall be submitted to Didrik Voss, [davoss@pvmtengr.com](mailto:davoss@pvmtengr.com), no later than June 15, 2011.
- The Summer Board meeting will be held prior to the Sacramento x2011 Convention on Friday, July 1, 2011. The meeting is usually held at the convention

hotel, but the exact start time and room number will be announced when available.

- The NMRA is looking to identify and recognize any model railroad clubs that were formed in 1935 or earlier that are still in existence. We would like the name of the club and when it was founded. A picture from the early years would be appreciated. Send the information to Dave Thornton, Vice president – Administration, [dthorn5552@aol.com](mailto:dthorn5552@aol.com) or mail to 2027 Jeffrey Drive, Troy, MI 48085-3816.

## **2010 Annual Division Report**

By **Grif Bond, Superintendent**

### **Division**

Carolina Piedmont Division (CPD 13)

### **Meeting Times and Dates**

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month

Meetings in November and December held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday.

Cary Senior Center, Fred M. Bond Park, Cary, NC

6:30 PM Board of Directors meeting

7:00 PM Division membership Meeting

All monthly meeting (except March & December) included an educational program on prototype railroads and / or railroad modeling. A monthly modeling contest was held with the popular vote winner receiving a \$10 gift certificate donated by Train Buddy Products (Kim Parker), Wake Forest, NC. Each monthly contest has a theme.

### **List of Officers plus AP Coordinator with contact information.**

Superintendent – Grif Bond,

[grifbond@embarqmail.com](mailto:grifbond@embarqmail.com)

Assistant Superintendent – Jim Murphy,

[berkshireshort@yahoo.com](mailto:berkshireshort@yahoo.com)

Paymaster – John Rudisill, [jrudi123@aol.com](mailto:jrudi123@aol.com)

Clerk – Jack Dziadul, [dziadul@windstream.net](mailto:dziadul@windstream.net), newsletter editor

Director – John Wallis, [wallisjm@att.net](mailto:wallisjm@att.net)

Director – Vic Bitleris, [vbitleris@nc.rr.com](mailto:vbitleris@nc.rr.com), AP  
Coordinator

Director – Rob Rousseau, [railroad@nc.rr.com](mailto:railroad@nc.rr.com),  
webmaster

### **Achievement program highlights**

Rob Rousseau – Chief Dispatcher

Jack Dziadul – Author

Jack Dziadul – Association Volunteer

Stephen Wood – Chief Dispatcher

Stephen Wood – Golden Spike

A judging event was held in July at a member's home.

### **Planned Activities from the past year**

- Modular industrial building contest – used Walthers 3 in 1 modular building kit as the basis for the contest. Kits were available in HO and N scales. Guidelines included using a minimum of 50% of the parts, kit bash or build just from kit, display or diorama, include a sign, etc. Prizes (modeling tools) were awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place popular vote. Three additional prizes were awarded nu the Board of Directors.
- White elephant sale before / after membership meeting (October).
- Raffle layout construction.
- Purchase of AV equipment with matching funds from the MER.
- Division booth/display at the Neuse River Valley Train Show.
- Attendance at the NMRA National Convention in Milwaukee (8 members).
- Produced 12 monthly issues of division newsletter, The Carolina Piedmont Herald.
- Established a Planning Committee in order to host the 2011 MER Convention, piedmont Crossing, October 27-30, 2011 in Cary, NC.

### **Special projects or working with other organizations**

- Cary Senior Center education programs – 2 programs were provided to

community seniors as a part of the meeting room space agreement.

- Holiday trains for Kids – HO scale train sets were provided to needy children at Christmas time. Division membership provided the names of children in need.

### **Any successful or new ideas that your division has tried that might be helpful to other divisions**

1. Membership designed and constructed a 4 by 8 sectional HO scale layout as a raffle fundraiser for the Holiday trains for Kids program. Layout was designed to be rearranged in several configurations to operate in an oval, L shape or straight. Sectional layout was based on the "Beer Line" concept shown in Model Railroader magazine. Members provided / donated all the materials, including structures, track, scenery, locomotives (2) and rolling stock. The 2010 raffle layout project raised \$1,180 during 2 days of sales at a train show.
2. Holiday Trains for Kids program that provides HO scale train sets to needy children at Christmas time. Train sets are purchase using Division funds and funds raised from the sale of "raffle layouts".

### **Where in your opinion could the MER provide support to your division?**

MER could provide increased membership dues rebates to fund Division activities.

### **Superintendent's Name and Signature**

Grif Bond, Superintendent  
February 20, 2011

# Improve your modeling with a few sheets of paper.

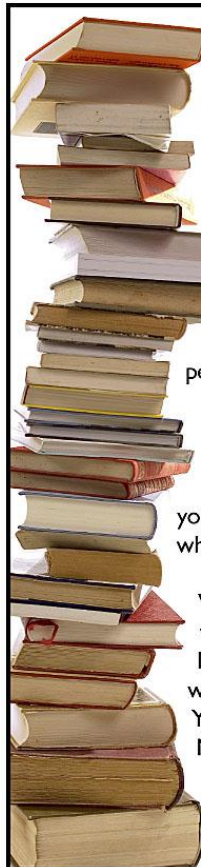
That's exactly what happens when you participate in the National Model Railroad Association's Achievement Program. One Merit Award here, another there, and pretty soon you're on your way to becoming a Master Model Railroader. All the while learning and having a ton of fun.

The Achievement Program is modelers helping modelers become better modelers and get the most out of their hobby. And it's yet another benefit of NMRA membership.

Visit [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org). Then improve your skills. And your hobby.



**We make it even more fun.**  
[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)  
4 2 3 - 8 9 2 - 2 8 4 6



# Check out 6,000 train books.

Or 100,000 train photos. Or 50,000 train magazines. In fact, there are a lot of things you should be checking out at the National Model Railroad Association's Kalmbach Memorial Library. You'll find everything from prototype railroad periodicals to vintage model kit instructions.

As an NMRA member, you have easy access to everything – it's all just a phone call, letter, or email away. Our staff will even help you do research about virtually any train topic, whether it's model or prototype.

Visit one of the world's largest train libraries at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org). You'll find that the NMRA has a lot to offer modelers.

Check it all out!



**We make it even more fun.**

[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)  
4 2 3 - 8 9 2 - 2 8 4 6