



# The Carolina Piedmont Herald

Newsletter of the Carolina Piedmont Division, MER, NMRA

August 2011

## Next Division Meeting

**Tuesday, August 23, 2011**

**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**

**August contest – Depots and Stations**

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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 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

**Nolan Armstrong** Durham, NC

## Membership Barometer

Total Division Membership	126
Yahoo Group Members	93
Attendance 7/26/11	23 plus 1 guest

## August Program

**Depots and Stations Jack Dziadul**

## Financial Report

By **Jerry Mersch**, Assistant Paymaster

**July 2011**

Balance In Checking 6/30/11	\$6,937.04
<u>Income</u>	
None	\$ 0.00
Total	\$ 0.00
<u>Expenses</u>	
April-June meeting refreshments	\$ 35.03
Total	-\$ 35.03
Balance In Checking 7/31/11	\$6,902.01

## For Sale

Norfolk Southern 40' box cars HO scale.

The price is \$15 each and \$50 for a 4 car set to non-division members, \$12.50 each and \$40 for division members. There are about 70 left.



## 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  
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### *Division Paymaster*

**John Rudisill**, Clayton, 919-934-7029  
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### *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

## Jim Murphy's July Contest Winner

Jack Dziadul photo



## Piedmont Crossing

By Jack Dziadul

The Piedmont Crossing is fast approaching and the Convention Committee, along with MER officers and staff, has been hard at work to bring you a quality convention experience. We have placed some convention notices and clinic descriptions in The Local, and The Herald will be running clinic descriptions monthly through October.

- Have you registered for the convention yet?
- Do you have your room reservation at the Embassy Suites?
- Have you volunteered for a convention assignment? See **Steve Milley's message below**.

Hi All: We've been working to put together a volunteer schedule for the convention in October. I've posted the latest file on the Yahoo Group web site. Take a look through the file and the open spots. You can see the positions across the top of the matrix, and the times along the 4-day schedule. Blocks highlighted in YELLOW means that we need someone, those in GREEN already have a name.

If you volunteer, you don't have to volunteer for the entire block, we can take hour increments.

Another note, if you volunteer to help, you will get a cash credit reimbursement for the convention cost. John Janosko will coordinate those details.

Anyone interested in a specific spot, shoot me an email. [rsmilley@yahoo.com](mailto:rsmilley@yahoo.com)

I'll have this matrix at the CPD13 Tuesday night meetings too.

**Steve Milley**

## Coming Events

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

January 28-29, 2012  
Amherst Train Show, West Springfield. MA

### **NMRA National Conventions**

2012	7/29 - 8/4	Grand Rapids, MI
2013	7/14 - 7/20	Atlanta, GA
2014		Cleveland, OH
2015		Portland, OR

### **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.*

## Piedmont Crossing Planning Meetings 2011

Saturday meetings are held at 10 AM. Dates and hosts are below.

September	17	Cary Senior Center
October	1	Stephen Wood
October	15	Gene Sing
October	22	

**Convention October 27 to 30, 2011**

## Monthly Contests

August	Depots and Stations
September	Bridges
October	No contest (Convention work night)
November	Tank Cars
December	No contest (Yankee Swap gift exchange)

## Program Topics

August	Depots/Stations <b>Jack Dziadul</b>
September	Bridges Over Troubled Layouts <b>Dan Fisher</b>
October	Convention work night
November	Liquids on the Railroad
December	Yankee Swap Gift Exchange

## Refreshment Hosts

August	<b>Joe Getz</b>
September	<b>Jim Babcock</b>
October	<b>your name goes here</b>

## CPD Meeting Calendar

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

August 23	September 27
October 25	November 8 December 13

## Steve Milley handed out volunteer assignments for the raffle layout.

Jack Dziadul photo



# Minutes July 26, 2011

## Board of Directors Meeting

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

1. Review of June Board minutes – **John Wallis** motioned for approval on the June minutes as written. **Vic Bitleris** second. Approved.
2. Paymaster report – The June financial report as written in The Herald was approved on motion of **John Wallis** with **Jim Murphy** second. **Jerry Mersch** distributed a year to date budget to actual report. The report was well received for its thoroughness.
3. **Jack Dziadul** presented the case for producing The Herald as a web only publication. Presently only three copies are printed and mailed, and two of these members appear to have email. It is expected that, with the exception of special circumstances such as a disability, members would have email or web access. After discussion, Jack Dziadul made the following motion: The Herald will become an electronic publication only. The Editor shall make reasonable accommodation to provide print newsletters to members without email or web access due to disability. **John Wallis** seconded. Motion approved.
4. **Jack Dziadul** presented for discussion the idea of providing limited free "For Sale" advertising space in The Herald as a member benefit. Guidelines will be developed for further discussion.
5. **Grif Bond** raised the question of tables for the Neuse River Train Show in November. Upon motion of **Jim Murphy** with **Vic Bitleris** second it was voted to again reserve four tables at the NRV,

plus budget \$25 for electrical power for the tables.

6. **Grif Bond** raised the issue of Model Railroad Month coming in November. The layout raffle at the November train show and the related publicity for the Holiday Trains for Kids cause will serve as the Division observance.

Meeting adjourned 6:59 PM.

## July Business meeting

Superintendent **Grif Bond** convened the July business meeting at 7 PM with 23 members and one guest in attendance.

**Grif Bond** reviewed the actions taken at the Board of Directors meeting.

Achievement Program – **Vic Bitleris** had no updates.

Piedmont Crossing - **John Janosko** reviewed the Convention Committee's work to date. Volunteers are needed for convention date positions. See **Steve Milley** for sign-ups and notices elsewhere in "The Herald". Eleven vendors have reserved 38 tables for the convention train show so far. John showed the sample logo for the convention shirt.

**Jim Murphy** noted that programs are as posted in The Herald and that we have programs lined up through January.

Raffle layout construction update: **Steve Milley** distributed kits for completion, detain and weathering. **Gene Sing** has been assisting with layout construction.

Refreshment volunteers – **Don Hamrick** will cover October.

**Jim Murphy** presented an excellent program "Hosting an Open House".

**Jim Murphy** won the contest for residential structures.

## **My Week at the 2011 National Convention**

By Jim Babcock

The 2011 National Convention in Sacramento, California, billed itself as the "Unconventional Convention." In many ways it certainly lived up to it. More about that later. My wife Barb and I arrived in Sacramento via Southwest Airlines. We initially wanted to travel by Amtrak, but time constraints and cost prohibited that. We then took the "Yolo" bus from the airport to downtown. A one-way senior fare was just a dollar. The convention hotel, the Sheraton Grand, was very nice as was our room on the 20<sup>th</sup> floor. The staff was very friendly and accommodating. I was, however, disappointed in little or no signage for the convention.

On Sunday we and our friends from New York who had also arrived early walked to Old Town, which was only 13 blocks from the hotel. There we visited the California State Railroad Museum. This was a free attraction to convention attendees all week. This truly is a great museum. If you have yet to see it and are ever in the Sacramento area, then by all means make it a point to visit. We also toured Old Town. But I feel this is just a tourist trap in old historic store fronts. Besides, it was just too hot.

On Monday I had signed up for the Sierra Railroad tour at Railtown plus two home layouts. I tell myself every year, no more bus tours, maybe after this one I've finally learned. The bus tour chose to take I-80 east to state route 49 toward Jamestown. SR 49 is a scenic and very windy route, not really suited for 67 passenger tour buses. The trip to the first layout took over 3 hours. We visited Steve Haye's Western Pacific, and John Zack's 4 level Sierra Railroad. But because the length of time to get there and that we were to be at Railtown by noon, we were allotted 10 minutes per layout. Didn't get to see much. We arrived at Railtown at noon as scheduled and were treated to a very delicious barbeque lunch. Each tour person was then given tickets with time slots to tour the roundhouse and machine

shop and then a 50 minute ride behind 1891 Sierra RR. 4-6-0, number 3. The temperature was hovering near the 105 degree mark so the ride was not enjoyable. The car attendants were kept busy passing trays filled with cups of "no longer" ice water. The return trip was speedier via the interstate.

Tuesday, with our friend Gene as designated driver, four of us headed back east on US 50, on a self-guided tour. The tour sheet was poorly done, as no two layouts in an area were open in the same time frame. We did however manage to visit 5 layouts and one static display of American Flyer, and A.C. Gilbert trains. Owner Don Rosa's 25X40 room above a garage had over 600 feet of shelving displaying his over 25 year collection. This brought back memories, as he had at least one of every AF train that I had as a child. His wife is a collector of A.C. Gilbert small appliances. I didn't know that they were in to that business. One mention of when visitors come things go wrong. While visiting a narrow gage O scale layout, an engine, I believe a K-27 pulling no cars, stalled on an overhead loop. The owner chose to nudge the engine with a yard stick, only to have it crash to the floor. Being an elderly gentleman, he asked if I could retrieve it for him. I did so, gently picking up the frame, boiler, and cab with various other pieces no longer attached. He was remarkably calm about it stating "I guess I have to find another engine to run." The trip back to Sacramento was uneventful even though the outside temperature was 108 degrees. Arriving back at the hotel I noticed that my ears were aching just as when you are descending on an airplane.

By Wednesday I was congested and had lost my voice. I don't talk much anyway, so almost no one noticed. I spent the day taking decongestants and aspirin. I'm glad that I hadn't signed up for any more tours. I did manage to take in a few clinics.

Thursday: Same as Wednesday. I didn't win any door prizes all week.

Friday: "The Train Show." I still wasn't feeling up to par, but I wasn't about to miss the show

especially since the first 3 hours are minus the public. I was sort of disappointed, as several manufacturers and vendors were absent, most notably Tony's Trains. Those in attendance didn't offer any great deals; I could do as well or better at home. There were, however, many really great modular layouts on display.

Saturday evening was the "Non-quet." Instead of the usual banquet with all of its presentations and awards, the affair was advertised as "Go out on the town, have a nice dinner and return for dessert and a presentation of "Winterail" a digital photography show. The show was well done, even with comical ads from long ago, as they might relate to railroading today. The dessert. Well how about a "Blue Bunny" ice cream bar and water. Needless to say there was plenty of grumbling in the room. They did hand out many "door prizes" mostly unclaimed from the week. I still didn't win.

Ok, so I have seemed to be somewhat negative about the whole convention. Yes and no. All in all it wasn't a bad convention, and it hasn't deterred me from signing up for next Year in Grand Rapids.

## **NMRA InfoNet News**

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

### **August 2011 NMRA InfoNet News**

- Jim Zinser, MMR, and Fred Bock, MMR, have asked me to run this item again: If your Region or Division gives **adult or family classes on model railroading**, Fred Bock, the NMRA's Education Department Assistant Manager, is looking for ideas. Whether your program runs as a one-day seminar or multi-week course, Fred would like to know what your program is about and is looking for lesson plans or other course material. Please email Fred at [fbockLSRDiv6@aol.com](mailto:fbockLSRDiv6@aol.com) Use "Adult Education" as the subject of the email.

- The dust has barely settled from the Sacramento convention, when the folks in Grand Rapids are revving up for next year's get-together. In fact, **registration for Grand Rails 2012 is well underway**. Members can visit the website at [www.gr2012.org](http://www.gr2012.org) and either register online or download a mail-in form. Non-members can also sign up at that time. Note that currently registration only covers the costs of attending the convention. Furniture City Flyers Club members will receive the complete list of tours, activities, and merchandise in December, followed by advance registrants, then all other members.
- The Howell Day Museum is planning a **new release of its extremely popular Commemorative Car #3** -- the Gorre and Daphetid bobber cabooses -- except this run will feature two new road numbers, #3 and #5. As you may know, John Allen was very fond of these cabooses and ran a fleet of them on his G&D railroad. Pricing will be \$19.95 for one car, or \$34.95 for the set of two. Watch for the announcement of their availability at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org), or keep your eyes open for the ad which will appear in *NMRA Magazine*.
- Again, many of the clinicians at the Sacramento convention have **uploaded their handouts or full presentations** as PDF files to the x2011 website at [www.x2011west.org](http://www.x2011west.org). Anyone can download them. Just look for the Clinics tab, then Clinic Handouts.
- In case you missed it last month, the Board of Directors selected **Portland, Ore. as the site of the 2015 National Convention**. Details and exact timing of the convention will be announced in the coming months. For a complete summary of the Board of Directors meeting, visit the homepage of our website at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) in the next few weeks. The report will also be published in *NMRA Magazine* in the near future.

## **Notes from the X2011 NMRA Convention**

By **Thomas Cook**

My wife, Cindy, and I flew into Sacramento on Saturday, July 2. Since the Convention activities did not start in Sacramento until Sunday evening, after picking up our registration materials at the Convention Center Sunday afternoon we drove to the Napa Valley and toured two vineyards.

We spent the Fourth of July on all-day bus tour to the Western Pacific Railroad Museum in Portola, CA. What attracted me to this trip was that it followed the Feather River Canyon on the return trip. On the way to the museum, we rode over Donner Pass on I-80. What made this tour special was having two local model railroaders narrate the trips. Scott Inman provided a travelogue of information on the Southern Pacific transcontinental mainline as we made our way by it on the trip to the museum. It had been an unusually severe winter in the Sierra Nevada, and snow was still on the peaks. We learned that the Union Pacific is not using one of the two tracks over the summit, to reduce maintenance expenses.

After arriving at the Western Pacific Museum I photographed equipment in their collection. Cindy photographed wildflowers and we ate lunch at the museum. A dome car from the original *California Zephyr* was being refurbished in the shop. The museum shop had a nice collection of WP-related books and models. Our route back was via the Feather River Canyon, with Scott McAllister narrating. The bus made stops to allow photographing a passing UP unit grain train, and at a location where the railroad crossed from one side of the river to the other above a bridge where the highway crossed in the opposite direction. We passed the Keddie Wye but there was no place for the bus to pull off the highway or to stop, so everyone had to try photographing it as best they could on the fly.

A stop in Oroville provided an opportunity to view a static WP steam locomotive display across from the former passenger station.

After returning to Sacramento, I attended several clinics Monday evening, including a demonstration of Geodesic Foam Scenery by Joel Bragdon, who creates amazingly life-like rock formations using resin/foam materials.

Among the clinics on Tuesday, July 5 was a lively one on track warrants by Steve "Breezy" Gust, who spoke from his experience working with the UP.

Wednesday was devoted to attending the Layout Design Special Interest Group (SIG) annual meeting and touring home layouts. At the end of the business meeting, LD SIG members were given addresses for the participating home layouts, which were open during the remainder of the day. Twenty layouts were open at various times between 10:00 am and 10:00 pm. Cindy and I visited seven layouts in the Rocklin and Roseville area.

We started at the Sacramento Model Railroad Historical Society, whose Sierra Central is a double-deck HO layout modeling scenes from the Western Pacific through the Feather River Canyon and the Southern Pacific from the Roseville area to the Oakland Pier. Having recently visited several areas that were modeled, it was great to see the modeled scenes and realize how well they captured the flavor of the prototype locations. The club also has a narrow gauge layout. Other layouts included:

- Dave Clemens' Idaho, Montana Railway and Navigation Co.;
- Dick Pashley's SP Sacramento Mountain Subdivision (SP from Roseville over Donner Pass);
- Dave Houston's SP Rocklin Sub (featured in the December 2010 NMRA Magazine);
- Ken Draper's South Placer Lines (a tri-level layout with virtually every type of lift-out, swing-out, swing-down, or other type of bridge at doorways);
- Tom Weissgerber's Union Pacific in the Columbia River Gorge area (featured in the May 2011 Railroad Model Craftsman); and
- Mitch Valder's Northwestern Pacific (an N-scale layout with great scenery). Mitch's layout was on one level;

however, all the other layouts were multi-level.

I first experienced the Layout Design SIG home layout tour at last year's convention in Milwaukee and found it to be a great way to see layouts. There are no crowds—only a few people at any layout; you can take your time looking at each layout; and you have an opportunity to talk with the owner/builder.

On Thursday, July 7, the California State Railroad Museum was open to Convention attendees all day, with extended evening hours open only to NMRA members. While all the displays are well-presented, the SP cab-forward was the highlight of the collection. After touring the adjoining Old Town historic district, we returned to the museum for the ceremony kicking off a new gallery exhibit to be devoted to the NMRA and model railroading. After the dedication, we wrapped up the day with a ride along the Sacramento River behind former Granite Rock #10, an 0-6-0 saddle tank locomotive.

Friday was spent at the National Train Show, which filled the Convention Center with manufacturer's and vendor's booths, and modular layouts. It was a treat to pick up some hard-to-find detail parts, some bargain items, and learn about new products as well as some planned for future releases. The highlight of the show was the modular layout of the Edmonton, Alberta, Canada modelers. It had an incredible level of detail, including lighting and sound effects, all done with a great sense of humor.

Having attended three National Conventions, each has a different flavor. While I enjoyed the wide variety of clinics presented in Milwaukee last year, the 2010 Convention really excelled in the number and variety of tours—prototype, layout, and non-railroad.

The final activity at the Convention was to register in advance for the 2013 Convention to be held in Atlanta. After leaving the Convention, Cindy and I packed our bags, and prepared to travel to Yosemite National Park,

where we spent the following week. However, that's another story.

## **Reader Response**

**Subject:** On the Road Article in The Herald

Hi Jack:

Re your On the Road article in The Herald, are you aware that the Raleigh Convention Center about a year ago asked the North Raleigh Model Railroad Club to construct a railroad scene diorama that would be exhibited in the display areas along the meeting rooms at the Convention Center from August 2012 to August 2013?

The club accepted the invitation and began to determine what to model. The choices narrowed down to the old Seaboard Station (Logan's Trading Post), Boylan Junction and Apex. Since doing Apex would provide a track plan suitable for the diorama to be made into a standard NTRAK module once the exhibition time is over we decided to do Apex, and we chose to model Apex back at the time the Durham & Southern was still operating.

Virtually everything in your photos will be modeled, plus the asphalt plant and other buildings around Apex station and downtown Apex.

Several NRMRC club members, which include David Derway and Mark Blaustein are working on the diorama, as is Gene Sing who is scratch building Apex Station. Currently the module base is complete, and the cork base for the track is in place. The next step will be to lay the track. There is at least one work session each month.

Regards, **John Wallis**

## NMRA Achievement Program

by **Robert Rousseau**

Continuing with the commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NMRA Achievement Program, I've been asked to write about my experiences while engaging in this activity. I joined the NMRA in March of 2005. One of the reasons why I joined was to belong to a National organization and the benefits of such. One of these is the Achievement Program.

The AP offers a challenging array of diversity. This is perhaps one of highest reasons why this hobby can appeal to anyone. This is also a reason why pursuing the MMR is attractive since it exercises so many different talents. In effect, it stretches our brains and skills to learn new things.

When I first started looking at the AP, I realized that the AP Association Volunteer would be my first award to apply for. I served as Clerk to Carolina Piedmont Division from January 2006 to March 2006. This was the bulk of my "points". During part of this time, I served as the Editor of the *Herald* and as the Webmaster. Generally these positions racked up "points" for each month served. So long as I kept track of the months, it was easy to tally them up.

In addition, I gave two Live Clinics. This earned a few more points. Some of these points went towards Author as I will describe later. I also participated in Divisional and Regional Layout Tours at Jack Frame's Monon layout in south Raleigh.

All of these activities contributed to my Volunteer "points" until I had over the 60 certified time units (TUs). I received this award in August 2008.

The next AP that I received was the Model Railroad Author in November 2008. During my time as Editor of the *Herald*, I found that I would lack an article to post and so would write one to use in the newsletter. The ones that I enjoyed writing was the ones describing my railfanning activities, "Dine in History at Clarksville Station", "Norfolk Southern Portlock Yard Tour", and "Local NC Railfan Guide". Points were also earned for Officer Reports such as the Clerk's CPD meeting minutes published in the *Herald* and on the website.

During this time I also served as the Editor for the Norfolk & Southern Historical Society.

Unfortunately serving as an Editor for a non-NMRA publication does not count towards the AP. However, having authored an article in the NSHS newsletter did count. Be sure to read the requirements closely to make sure that you have the right amount of "pages" that count. A "page" is approximately 1200 words. If you are really nit-picky, credit may be claimed for partial pages down to quarter pages. And bonus points for art work or photos, scale drawings, track plans and NMRA Data/RP sheet.

Giving Live Clinics also counts towards Author points. I gave two live clinics (with handouts) at Divisional meetings, "James River Rambler" and "Amateur Radio and Railroads." You can get more points if you give these at a Regional or National clinic.

The last area where I received Author points was for an Electronic Publication, primarily my Durham & Southern website ([www.durhamsouthern.com](http://www.durhamsouthern.com)). You will need to look closely at how much content is available by putting it into a document and counting up the "pages" as earlier published articles. In addition, no more than 21 points can be claimed for this category.

My latest AP award was for Dispatcher in December 2009. I've been a member of **Jack Frame's** Monon operating crew since 2002. During this time, I have operated as Engineer, Yardmaster and now Dispatcher. Since Jack keeps attendance records, it was very easy to compile the amount of time and roles with his help.

I think the hardest part was coming up with the documentation. In this attachment, I had to prepare a schematic drawing of a layout. I also had to include a timetable and train chart for this layout. Finally I had to describe a system of operation (along with using waybills and car cards). Perhaps this wasn't so hard since I enjoyed Operations SO much, but it was just sitting down putting it all on paper. I'd like to thank **Joseph Kananowicz** and **Gene Sing** for their help in this endeavor and also **Jack Frame** for providing many years of fun operations on the Monon.



That sums it up for the AP awards received so far. I am currently working towards the Golden Spike and Electrical AP awards next. After that, I am eyeballing the Civil and Scenery, followed most likely by Motive Power or Cars. Not sure exactly yet, but that is all in the fun of it!

I would also like to thank **Vic Bitleris**, our AP Chairman, for his patience and his tirelessly answering of all my questions. Thanks, Rob

## From The Business Car

By Grif Bond, Superintendent

Volunteer request # 1 – The Piedmont Crossing 2011 convention committee is still working to fill slots on the MER convention volunteer schedule. We'll have the schedule at the August and September Division business meetings so you can sign up. If you can't make the meetings, contact **Steve Milley** to volunteer. We're working to fill a number of convention volunteer slots to cover the company store, train show, clinic rooms, registration, etc. Volunteers will receive a \$5 registration rebate for 4+ hours worked or a \$10 rebate for 8+ hours worked.

Volunteer request # 2 – The Division will have 4 tables at the Neuse River Valley Train Show on November 5 and 6 at the N.C. State Fairgrounds. Volunteers will be need to staff the Division's display and sell tickets for the "Holiday Trains for Kids" fundraiser (HO scale raffle layout). We'll solicit volunteers at the upcoming Division meetings or you can contact any Board member if you can volunteer. We'll also need help with set-up and tear-down.

Convention model contest – It is time for everyone in the Division to "step up" and place a model or two in the contest room at the convention. It is a great time to have some of your work evaluated and/or displayed. Maybe you'll get the magic 87.5 points and earn a merit award.

MER elections – The ballots for 3 director positions were recently mailed. There are 5 candidates running – **Martin Brechbiel, Chuck Davis, Don Jennings, Marty McGuirk** and **Bob Price**. Recent elections have shown that a few votes make the difference. So, find your ballot and cast your votes for 3 directors and mail your ballot back by the postmarked deadline of September 7, 2011.

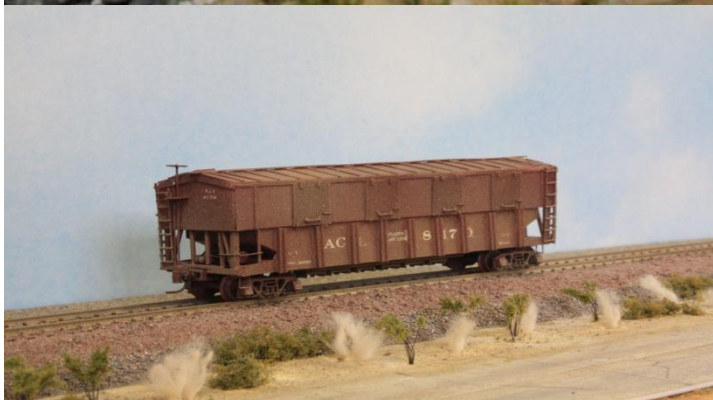
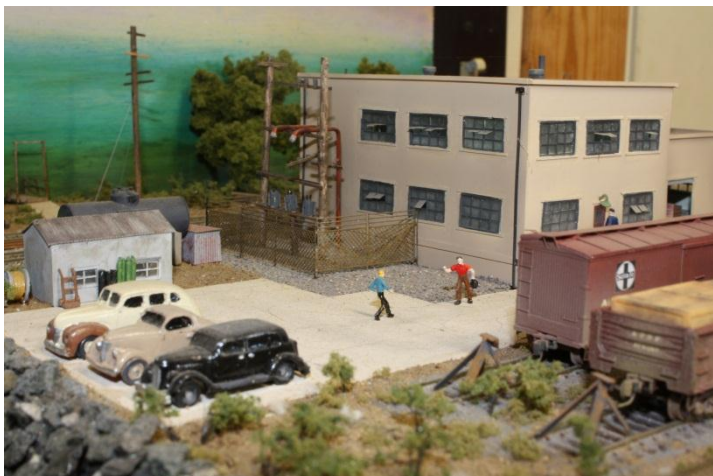
Come to the Cary Senior Center and join your fellow model railroaders this month on Tuesday, August 23rd at the Division meeting. Remember to bring a model for the popular vote contest..."depots - stations"!

## From Rick Dietrichson

Rick visited us at the July meeting and wrote the following note. Two photos of Rick’s modeling work are also below.

Jack, I really appreciated the warm reception I got at the meet. Seems there are a great bunch of modelers that are active in the Raleigh area, which I have always found to provide an impetus to my modeling endeavors. I look forward to seeing more of your group and of your layout. I would enjoy doing some writing for The Herald.

I'll be in touch as to when I'll be back in the Sanford area. If it is alright with you I'll bring my grandsons along to see your work. Again it was great to meet you and the group, and look forward to doing it more often.  
Rick



## The New Paint Scheme on Parade in Lawrence, MA

Jack Dziadul photos

