



THE BRASS POUNDER

Newsletter of the Carolina Southern Div, Mid-Eastern Region, National Model
Railroad Assoc. Volume 10 Number 2
May 2010

Next Division Meeting

Date: May 15, 2010 Sandhills Central
482 East Connecticut Avenue,
Southern Pines, NC 28387.

9:30 a.m. Layout tour Sandhills Club Southern
Pines Layout
Followed by tour of Sandhills Club Aberdeen
layout

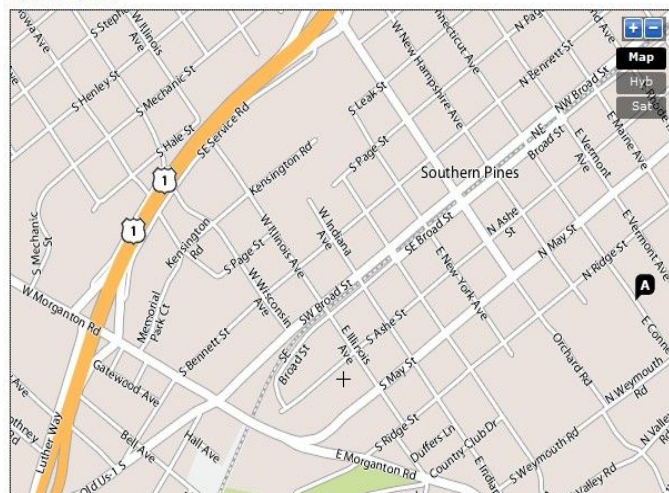
12:00 (approx) Lunch at Aberdeen Cafe followed
by short Division Meeting

www.carolinasouthern.org/timetable.htm

Directions:

In Southern Pines, from US Rt 1 or US Rt 15,
take Morganton Rd eastbound.
Bear right on May St.
Turn right on Connecticut Ave.

Map of 482 E Connecticut Ave, Southern Pines, NC **YAHOO!**
28387-5624



Division Events

Date: June 5 Visit Triad Live Steamers
6960 Robinson Church Road
Harrisburg, NC

10:00 a.m. Visit and tour the 7 1/2 in gauge
railroad with operating trains.

Directions:

From I485 in Northeast Charlotte:
Take NC 49 University City Blvd exit, go east
In Harrisburg, turn right on Robinson Church Rd.
OR
Take Rocky River Rd exit, go east
Turn left on Robinson Church Rd.



(Continued)

Division Events (cont'd)

June 12 10:00 a.m. CS Division Tour of Lancaster
& Chester RR.
512 S Main St
Lancaster, SC

Tour railroad facilities, museum, and private car restoration operation.

Directions:

From Charlotte, I485 near Pineville, take US 521 South (Johnston Rd) to downtown Lancaster SC



Calendar of Events

May 15 9:30- 1:30 CD Division Meeting
Sandhills Central Railroad Layout tours (2)
Southern Pines & Aberdeen NC

May 13 - 16, 2010 MCR Convention
The Coalfield Express 2010, Charleston, WV
[http://www.coaldivision.org/coalfield_express.ht](http://www.coaldivision.org/coalfield_express.html)
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May 21-23 SER Convention
Bessemer, Alabama
http://www.ser-nmra.org/2010_SER_Conv.htm

June 5 10:00 a.m. CS Division Visit to Triad Live
Steamers
6960 Robinson Church Road
Harrisburg, NC

June 12 10:00 a.m. CS Division Tour of Lancaster
& Chester RR.
512 S Main St
Lancaster, SC

June 26 Train Show
Metrolina Center, Charlotte, NC

July 11-18 75th Anniversary NMRA Convention
Milwaukee, WI
<http://www.nmra75.org/>

September 23-26 National NTRAK Gathering
Danville, VA
<http://trainweb.org/nrmrc/2010show/>

Sept 30-Oct 3, 2010 MER Convention
Princeton, NJ
<http://mer.nmra.org/MERConv/MERConv.html>

October 15-17, 2010 Carolina Southern Division
2nd Annual Rail Ops Weekend

Superintendent's Corner

Steven P August – Superintendent

Good day to you all fellow model railroaders. As we pass through 2010 like we are on rails and we have green signals all the way. I come to you with an update to the Carolina Southern Division of the Mid Eastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association. I write the whole name of the division because back during the annual meeting we all voted to proceed with the incorporation of the Carolina Southern Division.

Recently in the mail you received a ballot that allowed members in good standing to vote on the new bylaws of what will become the CAROLINA SOUTHERN DIVISION. The time to return the ballots has now come and gone, and although the returns were not what I hoped, those who returned the ballots overwhelmingly passed the new bylaws. The next step will be to send the forms to the State of North Carolina and become incorporated. I would like to thank Bob Halsey and his committee for all the work they put to the new bylaws which ensure that everyone will be well represented.

I have other updates and upcoming events to announce as well. Recently, we have been working with our webmaster to revamp the Carolina Southern Division home page. The old page was a little tired looking and had not been changed in quite some time. Gil Brauch has been working on a new layout and has done a great job. We have tried to incorporate everything we could. One thing that would make it better would be you, we need your ideas on places to visit, things to see or do drop us line and we can make it happen.

The new webpage will come on line real soon and we will announce the change through Email notification. The new webpage address will be www.carolinasouthern.org and you will have to update your browsers on the date of change. As always, comments on the new pages will be welcomed by the webmaster.

Other events that are still upcoming are trips to Lancaster & Chester Railroad, we are going to have make a short trip up Harrisburg, and see the Triad Live Steamers group who operate in the park. The layout owners are in the planning process for the OpSession Weekend coming up in October again this year. The NC Rail Run is happening in September.

The next big thing that we want to announce is the Carolina Southern Division is going to host its first Train Show in November. It will be held at Hickory Grove United Methodist Church on November 6, 2010 from 10AM – 4PM. Mark your calendars and come out and support the the division.

The Gibsonville Garden Railway

Steven P. August

Back on 11 April 2010, Rick Knight, Jim Rager, Stephen Wood and myself ventured up the small town of Gibsonville, North Carolina. Gibsonville, known as the "City of Roses", is located in the Piedmont Triad area of North Carolina, between Greensboro and Burlington. With an estimated population of 5,775, Gibsonville offers a small town atmosphere to live, work, and play while providing quick access to larger neighboring cities.

One of the really cool aspects of visiting Gibsonville is the parks. One park which is located in the center of town has a very unique feature, which is a Garden Railroad. The railroad is the brain child of a very avid model railroader by the name of Bobby Summers.

In July of 1997, more than 12 years ago, Bobby decided that he would like to give something back to the town. So he approached the town with an idea to build a Garden Railway. He wrote up the proposal and submitted his ideas to the City of Gibsonville and they loved the idea.

The town allowed Bobby to build the Gibsonville Garden Railway. The city would provide the land and power and Bobby provided just about everything else. The layout is approximately 80' x 85' and is located right in the center of town. It has approximately 1,500' of track and can run 5 different trains at the same time on different tracks.

The few of us who went to meet with Bobby on a wonderful day in April, had just a wonderful time of conversation and being able to sit down, slow down and enjoy watching the trains go around the park. Oh, I think I forgot to mention that the real mainline is less than 100' away from this layout.

Bobby runs this layout on Sunday afternoons starting about 1PM until about 5PM weather permitting. Oh, don't look for Bobby on those stifling hot Carolina summer days because he will not be there. Another neat little feature of the Gibsonville Railway is that it can run 80 car coal trains from time to time. They take 6 locomotives and I am told are sight to see.



Bobby, in his spare time (whatever that is) runs not 1 but 2 hobby shops in town. Bobby's Hobby's, are the preeminent hobby shops in town. If you have a hobby he has what you need. The hobby shops are open Wednesday – Saturday. Bring lots of cash because they do not accept credit cards. They are run almost simultaneously with the help of his wife. One hobby shop is for radio-controlled hobbyist and the other shop is dedicated to everything for the model railroad enthusiast regardless of scale.



If you would like to share in a very nice lazy day of watching the trains go by and some great conversation then take the short trip up to Gibsonville, NC and sit by tracks, watch the trains go by,

enjoy a nice meal at one several great restaurants on Main Street. Lots of people who live in town and many that don't love to do the same thing.

In November, just before the Thanksgiving Holiday the town of Gibsonville will hold its annual tree and square lighting. The whole town comes out for the celebration. The trains will be running, there will be music and hot chocolate. A great time for children of all ages can be had. Come and see.

BOY SCOUT RAILROADING MERIT BADGE

Rick Knight

On Saturday, May 8th, the McGuire Nuclear Station and the Energy Explorium were host to more than 525 Boy Scouts from Councils stretching from Albemarle to Shelby and Sparta to Rock Hill. Most of the Scouts arrived early Friday evening and camped overnight on the lawns near the Explorium. Bright and early on Saturday morning they assembled at the flag pole and divided out to follow their Merit Badge counselors. Steve August and I rounded up our Scouts and headed off to our respective layouts – Steve had seven (7) Scouts and I had ten (10).



Jim Rager helps the Spencer Yardmaster

At my session, the Scouts and I worked our way through the basic requirements – identifying ten different kinds of railroad cars, talking about how braking systems work, discussing different jobs available on railroads, etc. Heavy on the agenda were safety issues and Operation Lifesaver. By the time we were about talked out, lunch arrived.

Then we launched into a formal Operating Session – what better way to really show the Scouts how a real railroad does business? Jim Rager and Roy Becker, two of my Monday Night Irregulars, helped to guide the Scouts. I had a matrix assembled with three (3) half-hour sessions. Each session had job assignments: one Dispatcher; five Yard operators; two Conductor and Engineer

teams. On the half hour the jobs rotated, keeping the flow interesting and informative.

By 3:00 pm the merit badge cards had been signed and the Scouts were on their way back to the Explorium to meet up with the rest of their Troops.



Roy Becker overseeing operations in Statesville

It's a great experience – introducing young people to the hobby we so love, and maybe starting a spark of interest. Over the years, I've had several Scouts bring their families back to see the layout and to participate in OpSessions.



Are they hooked?

Sometime in July I plan to hold a formal OpSess for older Scouts over a four hour afternoon. Stay tuned for details!

NAPLES (FL) DEPOT

Rick Knight

Headed South? Make plans to stop in Naples – it's about as far South on the West Coast as you can go. In the old downtown, there's a nicely restored Depot.



Around the outside there's a riding railroad – check to see when it operates. Volunteers are in charge, so the operations vary by season. Inside there is a large Lionel O Gauge layout – again, check on the availability.



And outside there are several cars – a caboose, a baggage car, and an Atlantic Coast Line observation car. Do take a good look in the observation car!



The Division Brass

Superintendent Steve August
Asst. Superintendent Bob Halsey
Clerk Jack Haynes
Paymaster Dick Bronson
Director 2010 Roy Becker
Director 2011 Fred Miller
Director 2012 Jim Rager

AP Chairman Dave Chance
Webmaster Gil Brauch
Newsletter Editor Jack Haynes

Division Website:

www.carolinasouthern.org

Submissions For Brass Pounder

Next Issue	Submission Date
August 2010	July 15, 2010

Articles are welcome on any railroad topic, model or prototype. Your editor is available to assist in preparing the materials.

Editor: Jack Haynes: jbh108@earthlink.net
704-296-2493

Letters:

To the Division membership:

On May 1st The Model Railroad Swap Meet was held at the Northeast Cabarrus V.F.D..

It was great to see many of you come out and support the event. Next time I hope to hold the meet in a larger facility.

Thank you to all who helped make the day a success!

Regards,
David Ward

Unclassified Ad:

Free to a good home.

I have just over a half million white stick on labels that anyone can have for free. These are 7/8" by 1 and 7/8" with nice rounded corners. They are on a sheet that is perforated. 8 stickers wide by 100,000 long. No minimums! No kidding! Send along an address to my email (daviward@windstream.net) and I will send you a sample. Over and out!
David Ward