

# THE BRASS POUNDER

Newsletter of the Carolina Southern Division 12, Mid-Eastern Region,  
National Model Railroad Association

Volume 13 Number 1

March 2013

## Carolina Southern Division Events

### Saturday Monthly Meetings

April 20 10:30 AM

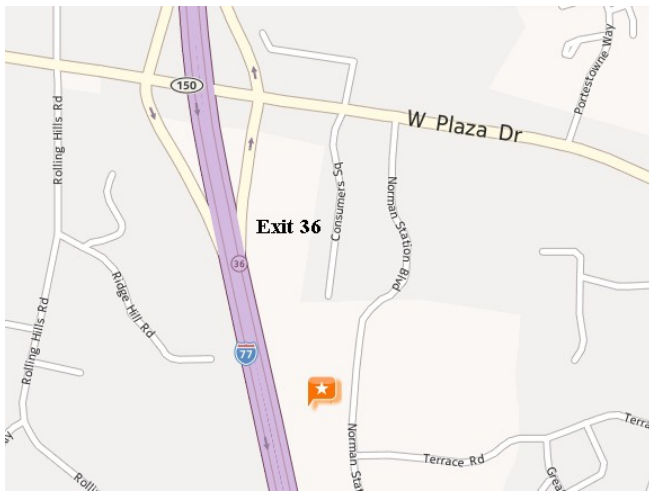
May 18 10:30 AM

June 15 10:30 AM

See carolinasouthern.org web site for program details.

HobbyTown USA,  
168-W Norman Station Blvd., Mooresville

North on I 77 to exit 36  
Right at end of ramp  
Right at Wal-Mart sign



Saturday April 13 10:00 – 2:00

Saturday May 11 10:00 – 2:00

Saturday June 8 10:00 - 2:00

Wade's Train Town Open House  
Brookford Town Hall

## Calendar of Events

Saturday, April 6, 9am – 3pm

2013 NC Rail Expo

Hickory Metro Center, Hickory, NC

<http://www.tarheelpress.com/APRshow.pdf>

April 13, 20, 21

TVRM Steam Excursions

NC Transportation Museum,

Spencer, NC

<http://tvrail.com/pages/21st-Century-Steam>

July 14 - July 20, 2013

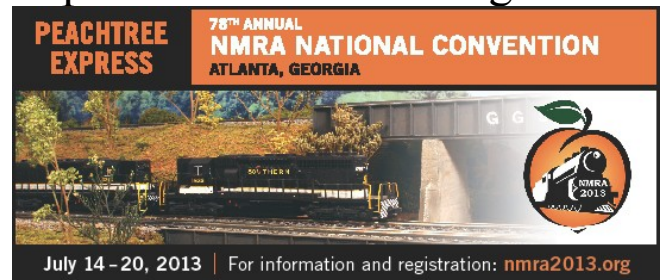
Peachtree Express

2013 NMRA National

Convention

Atlanta, GA

<http://www.nmra2013.org/>



October 10-13, 2013

C & P Junction, MER Convention

Rockville Crowne Plaza

Rockville, MD

<http://mer.nmra.org/MERConv/MERConv.html>

## **New MMR in Carolina Southern Division**

By Jack Haynes

In January, 2013, Jack Parker received two AP certificates. That completed the requirements for Master Model Railroader. Jack has been awarded MMR# 504. The members of the Carolina Southern Division all extend their congratulations to Jack. This is a great accomplishment and well deserved recognition for all he has contributed to the hobby.



*Jack Parker MMR #504*

Jack is a founding member of the Carolina Southern Division. He hosts the annual Division picnic at his home on Mountain Island Lake. His clinic on weathering at the Division's annual Railroad Modelling University is always well attended. He is well-known for the dramatic and highly detailed scenery on his layout. The layout is operated monthly by the Piedmont and Western Club.

Most of all, for this editor and many others, Jack is valued and respected for his always welcoming attitude and infinite patience toward anyone interested in model railroading. No matter what level of experience or knowledge in the

hobby, Jack warmly greets any newcomer visiting his layout. It is difficult to get through a visit there without getting a throttle in your hand and running a train.

While Jack has truly earned the MMR through his active participation in the NMRA and his exquisite modelling skills, he has also greatly contributed to the hobby by making it an enjoyable experience for everyone he meets. Thank you, Jack.

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## **C&P Junction MER 2013 Convention**

The coming C&P Junction Convention in Rockville, Maryland, will feature all those elements you expect:

- clinics by nationally-recognized clinicians;
- layout tours of prominent modelers;
- bursting White Elephant Room,
- operations call-boards for every level;
- lively contest room,
- Banquet and live Auction.

But one big difference will be Rockville--Washington and Baltimore-area destination cities. This is one convention where, over the long Columbus Day weekend, you and your spouse, if you wish, can use the long weekend to enjoy the Washington and Baltimore area: the Air and Space Museum, the International Spy Museum, the Newseum, the Baltimore Inner Harbor, Aquarium and other attractions.

C&P Junction, Crowne Plaza Hotel ([www.cprockville.com](http://www.cprockville.com)) with a free shuttle to the Metro and other points.

Visit our website:

<http://home.comcast.net/~CandP2013/>.

For questions email [CandP2013@comcast.net](mailto:CandP2013@comcast.net).

Marshall Abrams

Potomac Division, co-chairman

Kurt Thompson

Chesapeake Division, co-chairman

## THANK YOU DIVISION 12

Stephen C. Wood  
Carolina Piedmont Division-13



*Steven Wood, MMR #507*

In 2009 I was invited to an operating session at Jack Parker's fantastic layout. I attended for about six months when I was asked if I wanted to attend the Carolina Southern Division's 2009 Rail Ops Weekend which I did. I ran trains all over the place that weekend and at the end I was asked about attending the 2010 RMU.

At this point I was starting to work on my Achievement Program Certificates. At this RMU I brought a few models down to be judged and to learn what I could about model railroading through the great clinics.

Then I fast forward this to 2013 and a few months ago attending my third RMU, many operating sessions (well over fifty) and many judging sessions, I wanted to inform you that I now have completed seven AP awards. So in my heart I believe I owe all the members and past members of the Carolina Southern Division a big thank you. Without your kind, and generous help, opening your homes to me, and allowing me to attend your outstanding programs I never would have achieved this goal as an MMR.

I really want to thank Dave and Michelle Chance for their direct, open and honest opinions about my models along with Neal Anderson who spent a lot of time last year going over my The Brass Pounder Volume 13 No 1

structures, and others as well (sorry I do not remember everyone who did the judging.) In addition I want to thank Jack Parker, Neal Anderson, Seth Gartner, David Ward and Steven August for allowing me some outstanding Operating Sessions on their masterpieces. I look forward to many more years of enjoyment, friendship and learning all I can from a great bunch of fellow modelers.

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## Carolina Southern Division Annual Business Meeting Summary February 2, 2013

By Jack Haynes

The Annual Business Meeting of the Carolina Southern Division was held February 2, 2013 at the Lone Star Steakhouse in Mooresville, NC.

John Stevens was elected as Paymaster, and Gil Brauch was elected as Director 2015.

Bob Halsey stepped in last summer as temporary Paymaster due to Ken Trent's illness until a permanent Paymaster could be elected at this meeting. The Division treasury had a balance of \$3549.74 as of January 24, 2013. Income came from the RMU, Rail Run, MER distribution, and some sales and raffle tickets. Expenses went to RMU, picnic supplies, Boy Scout merit badge books, and some other miscellaneous.

Membership declined slightly and stood at 127 at year end 2012. None of those were Railpass members, and two were from outside the Division geographic area.

There were five issues of the newsletter published last year. It is distributed in PDF form from the web site with an email notice sent to all members who have provided one. For those without email, a printed copy of the first and last page is mailed providing the schedule of events, web sit address, and and officer contact information.

The Division is also emailing a monthly "E-News" letter to its email list. This is a one or two page list of upcoming events to provide a reminder notice to members.



Bob Halsey presented service recognition awards to several members and Brent Johnson owner of Hobbytown, Mooresville, and Dale Gowing editor of the Mooresville Tribune for their support of model railroading and the Division.



*Roy Becker received recognition for service to CSD at RMU and technical advice to the Division and its members*



*Jim Rager received recognition for service as Director and annual picnic planner*

For 2013, monthly meetings will continue on Saturday mornings at Hobbytown in Mooresville. The Superintendent is looking for someone to fill the position of Fun Committee/Calendar Coordinator. The Division Picnic will be the second weekend in September. Marcus Neubacher is working with the Raleigh opsig group on plans for RailRun weekend. The Superintendent will be contacting some people to work on another effort to get 501(c)3 status. We need to show more public benefit/educational activities. Location and time for a Swap Meet have not yet been determined.



*Bob Wessmiller received service award for setting up several Division activities and working on the picnic*



It was noted that the National NMRA Convention is in Atlanta this July, about as close as it can get. Anyone thinking of attending should work on reserving a room. There are many hotels/motels nearby the Cobb Center (Marietta area) so it is not necessary to stay at the convention hotel.



*Gil Brauch received service award for work as Webmaster and Brookford Project Manager*

The Division web site worked well for online registration to Rail Run and RMU. A list of publications in the Lary Lau lending library is on the site. Rick Knight manages it. There is no content index, but if you know a specific book or magazine issue you want, check to see if we have it. The web site links to Google Calendar for local



events. The NMRA National and Regional calendars are also on Google.

The Brookford Layout had 12 open houses last year with almost 400 visitors. About 85% of the restoration is done and should finish that effort by summer. Then will work on cleaning up the room, and sort out and store materials and parts. There were donations of \$2368 most of which has been spent on supplies.

RMU will be held on January 18, 2014. Flyers have been printed and will be passed out to area hobby shops.



Bob Halsey brought along several boxes of model railroad items that someone had given him to dispose of. These were available to attending members at very reasonable prices. So attend next year's meeting, you never know what you might carry home.

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### NMRA eBulletin

From Gerry Leone, NMRA

The NMRA has begun to use email for an eBulletin to all members. If you didn't receive the eBulletin emailed out in early March, it's either because your SPAM filter blocked it, or because they don't have your current email address.

Update your info online at:

<http://www.nmra.org/member/>

or send an email from your current email account to;

[clerk@CarolinaSouthern.org](mailto:clerk@CarolinaSouthern.org)

For spam filters, add:

[page.martin@arbourmodels.com](mailto:page.martin@arbourmodels.com)

to your address book.

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## February Division Meeting

By Jack Haynes

The monthly Third Saturday meeting was held on February 16 at the Mooresville Hobbytown USA. Bob Halsey demonstrated several ways to add weight to open cars. For some he made loads with weight to drop in to hoppers or gondolas. For flat cars he showed where weight could be added to recesses in the underbody.

He had an assortment of common materials that could be used to represent loads including crushed lava rock for coal, coarse ballast, sand, or chicken grit.



## **Achievement Program Progress Report**

Dave Chance, CS Div. 12 AP Chair

January 18, 2013

This year got off to a good start, with two Golden Spike awards earned in February, and one more in October. One member earned a Merit Award for scenery. The awards earned in 2012 are as follows:

1. Anthony Perkins – Golden Spike, February 7, 2012..... first award!
2. Curtis Alan Hardee – Golden Spike, February 7, 2012..... first award!
3. Anthony Perkins – Merit Award - Scenery, February 7, 2012.....first AP Certificate!

Congratulations to both Anthony Perkins of Belmont and to Alan Hardee of Bessemer City for their excellent work and in earning these Awards!

January 2013 also had a great start with applications for Chief Dispatcher, Master Builder Cars, and one for Master Model Railroader. These applications are as follows:

Timothy Rumph – Chief Dispatcher, sent to MER January 4, 2013

Jack Parker – Master Builder, Cars, sent to MER January 10, 2013

Jack Parker \_ Master Model Railroader, sent to MER January 16, 2013

We have several members currently working on AP projects. If you are working on an AP project and not listed below, please let me know so I can add you to the list. Several members listed below have only the paper work to complete. I can help with paper work but I can't do it for you. Current projects include but are not limited to the following:

1. Dick Bronson -- Electrical Engineer and Civil Engineering.
2. Jim Allen – Author and MB Locomotives.
3. Dave Chance -- MB Cars, MB Structures, Civil Engineer, Author, and MB Locomotives.
4. Ed Locklin -- Electrical Engineer.
5. Carl Baumgart – MB Structures
6. Michele Chance – Electrical Engineer, Civil Engineer, and MB Structures
7. Seth Gartner – Chief Dispatcher and Association Volunteer
8. Jim Thomas - Chief Dispatcher
9. Jerry Shepardson – Scenery and Electrical Engineering
10. Neal Anderson – Scenery, Association Volunteer, and Electrical Engineering
11. Dave Draxler – Electrical Engineer

Remember, I will be happy to help anyone who is working on an AP project, and anyone needing help getting started in the AP program. I will also be happy to come to your home to look at your layout for a Golden Spike, scenery, structures, etc. or to help with paperwork, etc. on an AP project. Let me know if you need help with your project, from understanding the requirements to assisting with the paper work. Send me an email or call me on the phone and we will schedule my visit.

[loconut@carolina.rr.com](mailto:loconut@carolina.rr.com)

704-933-4200



# Railroad Modelling University

## January 19, 2013

By Jack Haynes

The 2013 edition of the Division's RMU had a wide assortment of topics for every level of modeller. Again this year it was a full day event but each period was lengthened so that each instructor had a full hour to present material and answer questions. Topics covered scratchbuilding structures, laying and ballasting track, handy tools and techniques useful for many tasks, measuring and troubleshooting electrical circuits, configuring basic DCC, complex signalling with JMRI, and a series of sessions on various aspects of scenery, rocks, trees, and water. While attendance was a bit less than last year, everyone spent a worthwhile day improving their skills.



Jack Parker demos weathering while camera shows closeup on TV



Neal Anderson shows how to lay track and add ballast.



Carl Baumgart explains how he uses a homemade jig to help scratchbuild



Gil's Scenery class draws a big, interested crowd



After the intro, the Scenery class gets to work. Tables were set up with various activities and attendees rotated between them.



With meters ready, Jack Haynes explains the basics of electrical circuits.

**The Division Brass**

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**Division Website:**  
[www.carolinasouthern.org](http://www.carolinasouthern.org)

**Submissions For Brass Pounder**

Next Issue	Submission Date
May 2013	April 20, 2013

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

Editor: Jack Haynes  
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 7317 Easen Ct, Charlotte, NC 28211  
 704-296-2496

**HELP WANTED:**

The Division will have a table at the Hickory Train Expo on April 6. If you are willing to work at the table for a while during the show, please contact Superintendent Bob Halsey.  
 704-660-9712  
[superintendent@carolinasouthern.org](mailto:superintendent@carolinasouthern.org)