

THE BRASS POUNDER



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

Volume 17 Number 3

May-June 2017

Division Coming Events

(All monthly Div Meetings at Hunters Baptist Church – see website for further details)

May 20 – 9:30 AM
Clinics: How to give a Clinic & Yard Design

June 17 – 9:30 AM
Roundtable clinics

Other Events

June 9-11
Sipping and Switching Society of NC
Salem United Methodist Church
Denver NC

NMRA-MER Regional convention will be in Harrisburg, PA, in October 2017

Superintendent's Corner

By Alan Hardee

It's hard to believe it's May already. Mother Nature sure is confused. We've gone from spring to fall and back again several times the last few weeks. Now that it's finally warm again, it's time to get out and enjoy some outdoor railroading. May is an important month for railroading as well. Do you know what happened on May 10th in Railroad history? The best known is probably the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad, with the pounding of the Golden Spike at Promontory, Utah on May 10, 1869. Railroads have changed a lot in the 148 years since. Next was the New York Central & Hudson River's steamer #999. It hit 112.5 MPH setting an unofficial speed record on May 10, 1893. This date is also relevant for model railroaders. William K. Walthers, the founder of today's Wm K. Walthers Inc. was born on this date in 1892 AND started his company on his birthday in 1932. I bet every one of us has something in our collection from his company.

National Train Day is also celebrated in May on the Saturday closest to the 10th. The North Carolina Transportation Museum hosted a train show and NTD on the 12th-13th. Carolina Southern Division was well represented at NCTM. I want to Thank CSD 12 members Mike and Rick for demonstrating tree making clinics. CSD had the display board and timesavers setup as well. Andrew, Jack, Bob, Mike and I worked these during

the Show. A lot more CSD members operating on 4 different model layouts in N, G, and 2 HO along with our members on the NCTM Staff.

I can't wait to see what Scott has planned for May after that great clinic in April.

Editor's Notes

By Fred Miller, MMR

I hope many of you attended the Hickory train show last month. It was a lively event. The Division of course had its display table, and lots of attendees helped me to trim down my HO steam RR inventory. As I noted last issue I'm selling off a number of HO items which will not be appropriate for my planned new mostly trolley layout. See my article on that transition.

**CALL FOR ARTICLES,
NOTICES OR WHAT-EVER.
YOUR EDITOR CAN'T
KEEP FILLING UP THE IS-
SUE WITH HIS OWN MA-
TERIALS.**

**Next Issue
Jul-Aug 2017**

**Submission Date
Jul 1, 2017**

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

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The activities at The North Carolina Transportation Museum in Spencer earlier this month celebrated National-Train Day. Lots of events – see my brief photo coverage and Alan's notes in his column.

The Scratch Building Test

By Scott Perry, Program Chair

I am absolutely amazed at the talent in the Carolina Southern Division. One of the first clinics I usually give is the Scratch building Clinic. The 16 people in the room were given a small bag that contained pieces of wood, toothpicks and other assorted materials. We also gave them a razor blade, glue and paint. With a minimal amount of instruction we asked them to build something. Wow did they do a great job. Modelers built fences, small buildings, retaining walls and a host of other great models without any plans, measurements or photos.

The real test of the exercise was not to see if they could scratchbuild but to challenge their creativity. Of all the times I've given the clinic this crew was far and above more creative and talented than any other groups. This is a great indicator because it means we can have clinics that really test the cutting edge, that are more complex and really push the limits of the modelers.



I'm happy to be amongst such wonderful people and look forward to bringing you a clinic program that will help you grow in the hobby. This is YOUR Division, so let me know what kinds of clinics you want and what types of skills you want to build.



Our next program will have a clinic that I developed for our National NMRA Clinic Program and is called simply "How To Give a Clinic." Naturally that means I'm looking to train our people on how to give presentations so that we can all expand our knowledge. Each of us has talents and experience to share. We'll also have a clinic on how to design a rail yard for a layout.

Come join the fun and bring your questions.



Projects finished, time to socialize...





June's clinic will be a round table clinic where we have four presenters give a sit down mini-clinic about 15 minutes long. We'll have a group see the clinic, then move to the next table. I'm looking for four people to volunteer. Let me know what kind of clinic you want to give.



We are in serious need for a digital projector. If you have one that you can loan us, or you can contribute to the purchase of one, please let us know. Most Divisions are using computers to post information and clinic

slides, so this is something we need to take care of quickly.

Your feedback is not only important, it is required! Please write me at scottgperry@comporium.net or call me in the evening at 980-205-0526.



National Train Day at NC Transportation Museum

Photo Report by Fred Miller, MMR

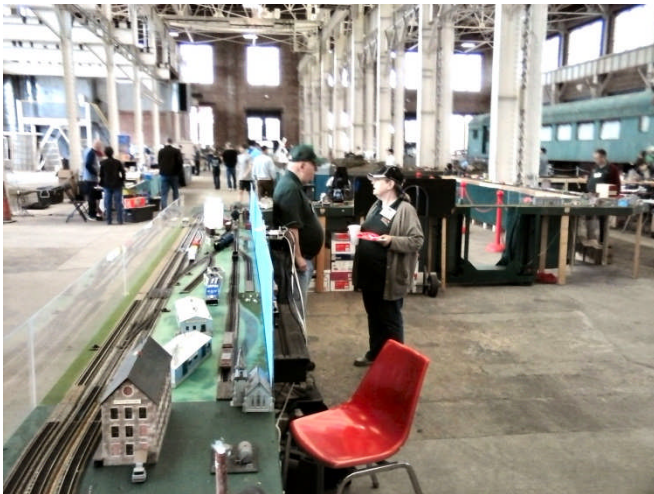


Lots of activities were available for railroad buffs, model railroaders and the kids of all ages at the big Spencer event..

If you are a member of the museum as I am, you had the opportunity to experience the show and rides at no cost. I enjoyed the ride and nostalgic conversations with the hosts on the dining car tacked onto the passenger train ride.



The caboose train is always popular with the kids.



The Train show was housed in the newly refurbished Back Shop. Some layouts were also displayed there as well as the auxiliary buildings

Division Website:
www.carolinasouthern.org





Our Divisions display table stood tall among the exhibits.



The Demise of Fred Miller's Fox Hill & Metuchen RR

By Fred Miller, MMR

Many CSDiv members have had the opportunity to visit my (former) layout.



With the change in my Condo living floor plan, the layout had to go.



Stay tuned for the resurrection of another (condo shelf) Trolley layout.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carolina Southern Division Monthly Meeting

Our new Program Chairman for the Division is Scott Perry, and he's ready to hit the ground running. Scott has given well over 100 clinics at NMRA events, both Divisional and Regional.

Last month he conducted the clinic: "Adventure in Scratchbuilding". He is developing the monthly schedule for the rest of the year. Here's how it looks so far:

May 20th – "How To Give a Clinic"

Learn the tips and tricks for giving a clinic at your local Division. Scott Perry provided the NMRA's National clinic training program and will be giving this

clinic on Saturday. You'll learn how to prepare, how to present and how to get over public speaking jitters.

And also on May 20th - Reverse Engineered Yard Design for Your Layout

Learn how to "backwards engineer" your rail yard for more efficient operations. Get the right yard tracks the first time!

June 17 - Roundtable Clinics

Four presenters will give a sit down mini-clinic about 15 minutes long. We'll have a group see the clinic, then move to the next table

Rest of the year – TBA

Generally all division monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 9:30 AM at Hunter Acres Baptist Church, 4620 Heman Drive, Charlotte.

Division Brass

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