

THE BRASS POUNDER



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

Volume 21 Number 1

January 2021

Division Coming Events

(See [CSD Website](#) for
further details)

**Division Meeting
And
Final Run at
Brookford**

**Wade's Train
World**

**Brookford
Community Center
1700 South Center
Street, Hickory, NC**

**Saturday Jan 9th
10:00am – 2:00pm**

Superintendent's Corner

By Alan Hardee

Happy New Year

Welcome to 2021. Hopefully, a better year than 2020. Carolina Southern Division thrives on people getting together, sharing ideas, and working on projects together. Unfortunately, in 2020 that wasn't an option. As we begin 2021, we will have a gathering at Brookford on January 9th for the final running of Brookford. See Gil's post below for more information.

This will also serve as our regular monthly meeting for January. We have several items up for discussion this month and hope everyone can attend. Larry Paffrath's term as Director is up. He is eligible for re-election. We also need someone to fill in Scott Perry's Director position later in the year. Scott has taken a new job in the Greensboro area and has moved out of our division borders.

Wishing Everyone a Healthy, and Prosperous New Year!!!

Wade's Train Town Closing at Brookford

by Gil Brauch, MMR – Brookford Project Manager

I find it difficult to believe that it has been almost 15 years since Rick Knight, a former Superintendent now deceased, introduced me to Wade's Train Town at the Brookford Community Center. At that time the layout had been essentially abandoned for 12 years or more – locked up in Room 107 with only the 'critters' keeping it company. At the 2006 Annual Meeting of the CSD, we embarked on a Division project to restore and revitalize the layout so that folks could once again enjoy Wade Warren's handiwork. We were able to accomplish enough work to initially open for public viewing in November 2006 and continued to work on finishing up the restoration over the next four years. Since then, we have been hosting regular monthly open houses at the layout up until COVID restrictions brought that to a screeching halt.

Over the years, nearly 60 members have contributed their time and effort to restoration and hosting the layout. This amounted to over 3,500 hours of volunteer work, the equivalent of over 1 ½ years of full time work, all done 3 to 4 hours at a time. Our cumulative attendance has been over 6,300 persons (some more than once) visiting during open houses. All-in-all we can be proud of our Division's efforts to bring this part of the World's Greatest Hobby™ to the general public. But hopefully the extended closing as a result of COVID isn't the end of the story.

At any event, we will hold our "Final Run at Brookford" Open House at Brookford on January 9, 2021. After that, several of us will begin detailed planning for a potential move to a local well-known museum. Final approval for the move has not yet been given, but we will begin working toward the possibility anyway. This will include coordination with the folks at the potential new site. Those plans will be shared with the Division early in 2021 and we will be spending the winter months preparing the layout for the move. If things go well, our initial target for a Grand Reopening is November 2021 in celebration of National Model Railroading Month.

In the meantime, we encourage all our members to come on up to Brookford on Saturday, January 9, 2021 between 10 am and 2 pm to witness the "Final Run at Brookford" of Wade's Train Town at the Brookford Community Center.

Editor's Notes

By Ed Gumphrey

Only one thing to say this month – I'm sure we're all glad to see 2020 behind us. I wish you all a Happy New Year.

DIVISION AND REGIONAL NEWS

By Ed Gumphrey

The Carolina Southern Division didn't hold a meeting in December. On a positive note, we will have a Division meeting in January in conjunction with the final run at Brookford. Don't miss out this coming Saturday, January 9th at 10:00am.

December marked more social media posts from Scott Perry and Seth Gartner's NYC Piney Fork Branch. Scott has his workbench set up in his Greensboro apartment, and Seth completed a large section of scenery on the lower level of his layout.

The next train show is in Fletcher at the Western NC Agricultural Center on February 26th and 27th. Hopefully coronavirus surge will abate and the event can avoid being cancelled – and stay safe for those in attendance. As of publication date, the show is still listed on the for the Agricultural Center's Calendar.



WNC MODEL RAILROADERS
ASHEVILLE, NC



31st Annual Asheville Model Train Show



Western NC Agricultural Center

Friday, Feb 26, 2021 Noon to 7:00pm
Saturday Feb 27, 2021 9:00am – 5:00pm

UPCOMING CONVENTION NEWS

By Ed Gumphrey

There are two relatively nearby NMRA Regional Conventions on the calendar for next year.

- The first is our neighboring Southeast Region (SER) Convention in Greenville, SC. Make your plans for June 10-13 and get more details at www.swamprabbitexpress.org
- The second is our own Mideast Region (MER) Convention in Baltimore, MD. Make your plans for next October 21-24 and get more details at <https://mtclarejct.com/>

FIRST UP:



Greenville, SC
June 10-13, 2021

Information at:

www.swamprabbitexpress.org



FOLLOWED BY:



MOUNT CLARE JUNCTION
MER 2021 - BALTIMORE, MD

Information at:

<https://mtclarejct.com/>

OCTOBER 21-24, 2021



WOOD CHEMICAL PLANT A SCRATCH BUILD PART V THE END

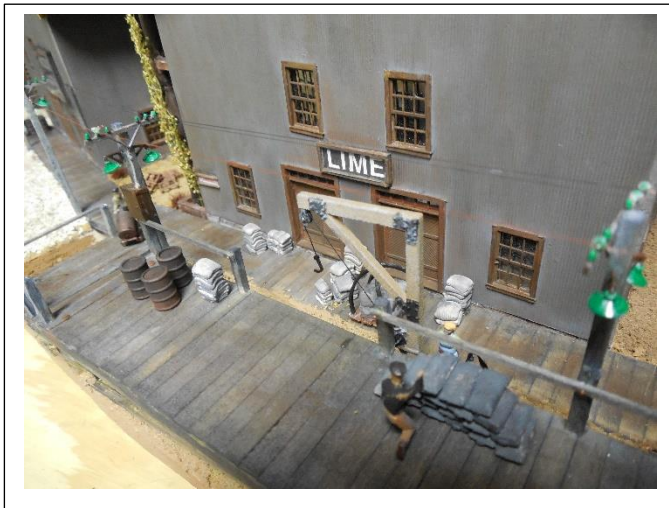
By Ed Smith

Over the last 4 or 5 months I've shared with you my scratch building endeavors creating a Wood Chemical Processing Facility. As I said before, these were prevalent in Pennsylvania in the era I model, the 1940s. When I started, I had no idea the project would grow into 8 scratch-built structures. Now that I've basically completed everything, I'm pleased with the final results. I've set the project on the layout at the designated spur. Background scenery has to be installed, tying the facility to the area and the base secured to the infrastructure. These two issues will have to wait. I've decided to submit each of the 8 structures for A.P. awards in the structure category. Since the facility is located on the lower deck, I want to be able to remove it, so the A.P. judges can view each structure fully.

My final installment on this facility will be more visual than just discussing procedures. I will be giving you an overview of the external detailing, with some views of internal details. Let's begin.

First, the view from trackside. Chalks, washes, acrylic paints, and Pan Pastels were used for weathering. Ground Goop, ground foams, and assorted Woodland Scenics grasses were used for ground cover. Signs were fabricated and World War II decals were used for posters. Dock details and figures from assorted companies were painted, weathered, and installed. The Tank Farm and Loading Dock was Kit Bashed.



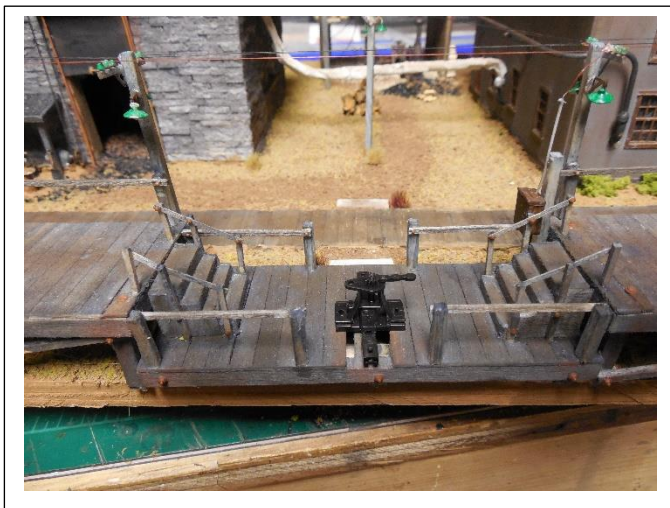


The three main production buildings representing the Office/Warehouse, Lime Still, and Acetic Acid Still were highly detailed inside. The stills were created using tanks, piping, valves, pipe fittings, masonry blocks, and electrical apparatus. The piping followed diagrams found on Google. The Office/Warehouse interior was scratch built using my idea of what it should look like.





The Loading Platform is fairly long. In actual length it is about 40". Last month I discussed the building of the structure. Typical weathering techniques were used, product details and figures added, phone boxes installed, and telephone poles, lights, and wiring were installed. Approximately in the center, the platform is offset down to track level to accept the turnout and switch stand. A caboose ground throw will be used, but not secured until the project is completely finished.



The Power Plant buildings of the facility are the Boiler Room, Pump House, and Saw Shed. The Boiler Room and Pump House have external piping servicing other structures. The Saw Shed has a saw, rigging, raw wood, and final cut pieces. All these buildings employ about 20 hand painted figures.



Finally, the front of the facility, which in reality faces the backdrop. The buildings are weathered, ground cover added, piping installed, and a maintenance Shanty added.



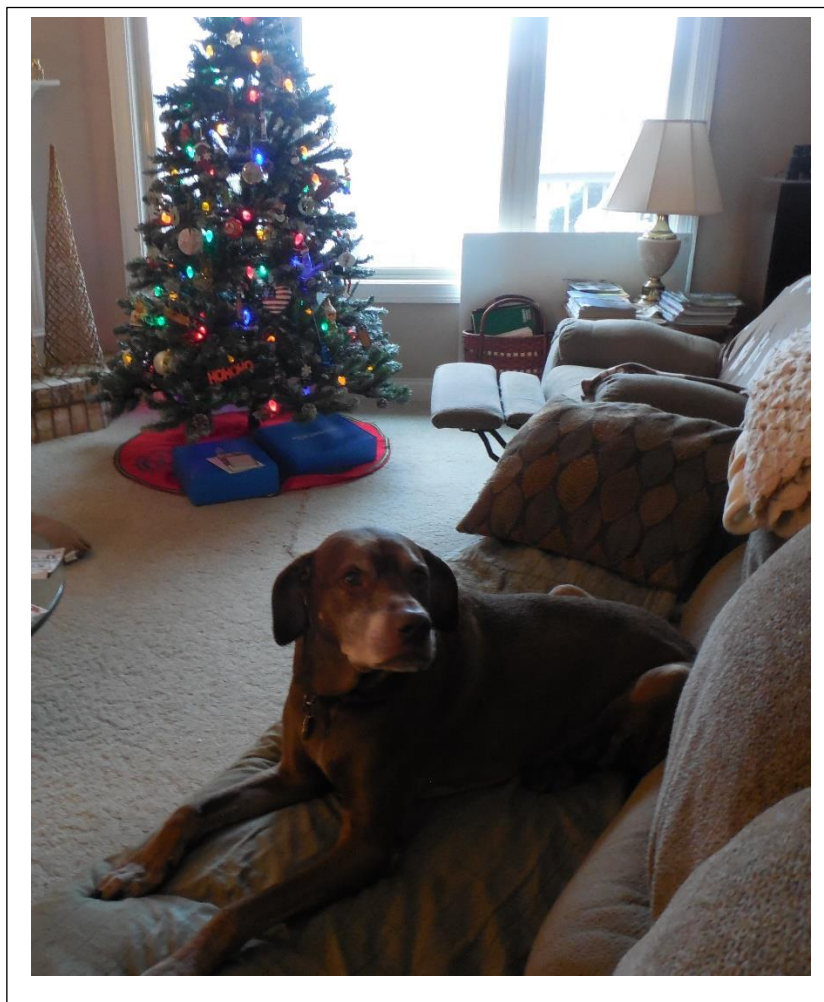
One note, I did install Berkshire Valley elastic line to represent phone and power lines. I did it mainly because I will submit this project for A.P. awards. I love the results and installation is not hard using A.C. glue. But they are a pain. You're constantly snagging the wire, which is almost invisible. And although it is very forgiving, it's easy to snap poles. The lines are barely visible in the photo on the right. On my layout as a whole, I will not add the lines on the poles. It's not worth the hassle.



Finally, the facility was re-located from my workbench to the layout. The access cut in the backdrop will be repaired and background scenery will be added later.



Well, that's a wrap. I hope you enjoyed these articles and maybe gleaned something you can use. I won't be back in the layout room for a while since I just had back surgery. But I have a few craftsman kits waiting to be built. I can still sit at my work bench. Stay tuned.



Elway is relaxing after a night of partying in celebration of Ohio State's victory over Clemson and joins in wishing from my family, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

ED

CLOSING PAGE BONUS

It's 2021



***Chessie System #2021, that is...
This GP-38 is still in service, now in CSX livery***



Division Brass

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Clerk
Paymaster
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Director 2023
Director 2021
AP Chairman
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Newsletter Editor
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RMU Chair
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