



# THE BRASS POUNDER

Newsletter of the Carolina Southern Div, Mid-Eastern Region, National Model Railroad Assoc  
Volume 4, Number 5 December 2004

## Contents

Editor's Notes on Nov meeting.....	1
Business Meeting Announcement.....	1
Division's AP Program status.....	2
MER Fall Convention .....	2
Division Elections .....	3
Proposed Division Bylaw Changes .....	4
Next Division Meeting .....	4
Stewart—Bowser announcement.....	4

## Editor's Notes

We've had some Division activity since the last Brass Pounder, and in particular the meeting at Rick Knight's home in November. Here are a few notes about the Division meeting for those folks who were not able to attend:

The meeting was hosted by Rick Knight, substituting at the last minute. *Thanks Rick!* The turnout was lighter than usual with a count of 9.

After some relaxing conversation around Rick's layout, while the members arrived, we held a brief meeting. The discussions included:

- There had been no marketing progress on the layout project. It was suggested that Martin Oakes bring the layout to an upcoming Open House at Rick Knight's layout for possible sale.
- Dick Bronson reported the bank account

stands at the \$308.15. He also reported that the current 2004 paid membership



Michele Chance -Track Configurations Clinic

stands at 17.

- The next meeting was set for 10 AM, Jan 15, 2005 at the Waxhaw Fire House. This will be the 2005 Annual Meeting and we will have elections. See elsewhere in this Newsletter for nominations.

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

The Carolina Southern Division's 2005 Annual Business Meeting will be held at the Waxhaw Fire House on January 15, 2005.

The agenda items include:

- Elections for all Officer positions and one Director,
- Consideration of proposed changes in Bylaws.
- Other business as appropriate

See elsewhere in this Newsletter and on the Division's website for further information.

The "talk meeting" broke up and we were treated to a Clinic about Track Configurations for Switching Operations presented by Michele Chance.

Fred Miller also presented a DVD Slide Show reporting on the Hagerstown MER Regional Meet.

After these presentations we adjourned for

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

some train running on Rick's layout.



Rick Knight shows off his layout

### NMRA AP PROGRAM

Our Division membership standing in the NMRA AP Program is:

Former and Current CSDiv Members	Gold Spike	Motive Power	Cars	Structures	Scenery	Prototype	Civil Eng	Elect Eng	Dispatcher	Official	Volunteer	Author	MMR	Total APC
Bostian, Phillip										92	89			2
Chance, Dave									03					1
Chance, Michele									03					1
Rick Knight	04				04									1
Lau, Larry	01													
Miller, Fred	98	04		03	03		01	00			03	99	04	7
Oakes, Martin											04			2
Parker, Jack	97			03	03		03	03	03					5
Teese, Jim	93	91	91		91	91	91	91				92	92	7

### MER 2004 Fall Convention

Reported on by Fred Miller

The South Mountain Express Fall 2004 MER Convention was held in Hagerstown, MD, November 11-14, 2004. Attendance



Lots to look at (and buy) at the Convention tables

### The Division Brass

Superintendent..... Larry Lau  
 Asst. Superintendent... Jack Parker  
 Clerk..... Fred Miller, MMR  
 Paymaster ..... Dick Bronson  
 Director 2004..... Michele Chance  
 Director 2005..... Dave Chance  
 Director 2006..... Bill Jennings

Membership Chairman Jack Parker  
 Fund Raising Chair..... Bob Johnson  
 AP Chairman..... Fred Miller, MMR  
 Newsletter/Web..... Fred Miller, MMR

was approximately 200 with three of us holding up the most southerly territory of MER.

I thought it was a good meet. There was a nice variety of informative clinics. The almost 40 different topics were presented by local talent as well as the familiar Dolkos, Cason, Horan, Koester, etal.



A view of Bob Hazard's fantastic layout

Over 30 layout tours were available each day including Thursday night. Saturday and Sunday afternoons was my time to get to a half dozen really outstanding layouts including Bill and Mary Miller's On3 masterpiece.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Of course the convention included the usual entertaining model, photo and craft contests, live auction and White Elephant table, some superb N Scale module displays, and the Banquet, Awards & Guest Speaker, Howard Zane.

JJ (John Johnson) and myself were honored to receive our official MMR certificates and plaques at the Awards ceremony.

If you haven't attended a Regional Meet, now is the time to plan for the next MER fall convention. This one is in our part of the country, sponsored by our neighbors up in the Raleigh area.

Check out the MER Local or the MER website: <http://members.cox.net/chyde/MER/MER.html> for details and registration forms.



### **CS Division 2005 Elections**

At the January 15th scheduled Annual Business Meeting, the members of the Carolina Southern Division will get to vote for all the new officers and one Director's position.

The nominations to date are:

- Superintendent .....Rick Knight
- Assist. Superintendent ..... Jack Parker\*
- Paymaster ..... Dick Bronson\*
- Clerk ..... Fred Miller\*
- Director (2005-2007) .....Michele Chance\*

\* incumbents

Note that additional nominations will be taken from the floor.



## **CS Division Bylaw Changes**

At the January 15th scheduled Annual Business meeting the Division members will also have an opportunity to consider and vote on some proposed changes to the Division's Bylaws.

Background: The NMRA membership as a whole has voted on and approved new regulations (Bylaws) at the national level, effective September 1, 2005. As a part of those changes, each Region and Division within the NMRA must adjust their Bylaws to be in conformance.

A significant change is to a single membership dues mode of operation. In other words NMRA members will pay dues ONLY at the National level and will then automatically become members at the Region and Division with territories corresponding to their principal residence. NO DUES CAN BE CHARGED AT THE REGION OR DIVISION LEVEL. Regions and Divisions can charge for various services rendered, for example for Meets and Conventions or newsletters.

So the submitted changes to our Division Bylaws reflect the fact that our Division will no longer be charging dues. Two sections of the Bylaws are effected. The whole section on Membership is replaced with:

1. *Each NMRA member whose principal residence is within the Carolina Southern Division's territory, is automatically a member of the division and can participate in voting and holding a Division office.*
2. *Except for voting and holding a Division office, all NMRA members, regardless of residence, are entitled to attend or par-*

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

*ticipate in any activity of the Carolina Southern Division.*

3. *The Carolina Southern Division Officers may choose to charge fees for specific activities and services such as meets, conventions, tours, open houses, and a mailed copy of a publication. For such activities, the fees will be the same for all NMRA members, regardless of residence.*
4. *Guest attendance privileges may be granted to model railroaders to introduce them to the Carolina Southern Division, MER, and NMRA activities. However, no one may consistently attend Division activities without joining the NMRA.*

In addition, the first sentence in the Paymaster's Responsibilities is changed to read:

*The **Paymaster** shall deposit and account for any income received from Carolina Southern Division activities or services or income dispersed from the MER for NMRA members in the Carolina Southern Division territory.*

**Please note, after September 1st of next**

**year, ALL NMRA MEMBERS IN OUR TERRITORY WILL BE MEMBERS OF OUR DIVISION. Let's find ways to welcome them and enhance their modeling fun.**



Ed Locklin passed on this notice:

*Last October, Stewart Hobbies, Inc. was purchased by Bowser Mfg Co. Bowser announced that it plans to continue Stewart's tradition for producing fine-quality models. Effective immediately all orders and inquiries related to Stewart products will be handled by Bowser.*

(notice abbreviated –ed.)

### ***NEXT MEETING***

Date: January 15th 2005, 10 AM

Place: Waxhaw Fire House

Remember: This is the Annual Business Meeting for 2005. Come to vote in the elections and Bylaw changes.

Check our website for further details, maps, etc. <http://www.bytedesign.com/CSDiv/>

***HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL !***

# ***BRASS POUNDER***



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