

# **MINUTES - CAROLINA SOUTHERN DIVISION ANNUAL MEETING Saturday, January 17, 2009**

The Annual Business Meeting was preceded by a tour of the new Charlotte Trolley Museum which is still being prepared for opening to the public. Featured at the museum are four modules built by Division member and MMR Fred Miller.

The Annual Business Meeting was held at Jillian's Restaurant, Charlotte, NC, around the corner from the Museum. The meeting was called to order at 12:55 PM by Steve August, Superintendent.

Sixteen Division members were present along with five NMRA members from outside the division including two representatives of the MidEast Region. The Clerk declared sufficient attendance to conduct the Annual Business Meeting.

Jack Haynes, Clerk, presented the minutes from the last Annual Business meeting. The minutes were accepted as read (motion by Jim Rager, second by Jim Allen).

Dick Bronson, Treasurer, presented the financial status for last year. The starting balance was 644.65; income for the year was 325.00 and a closing balance of 464.32.

Jack Haynes, Clerk, distributed copies of the Annual Report. He noted that some additional information had recently been received, especially details about the Wades Train Town project and would be incorporated into the final report.

## **Reports:**

### ***Achievement Program:***

AP Chair Dave Chance awarded the Master Builder-Electrical to Jim Allen. He has also submitted documentation for Dispatcher which is now at National.

During the MER Business meeting at the convention in Reston, VA., Roger Cason commended the Division for its AP performance over the past two years.

### ***Web Site:***

The Division Webmaster was not present. Steve August stated that the Division now has its own new web address: <http://www.carolinasouthern.org>. The corresponding URL points to the same web site.

Joe Howard read a resolution approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting in December. It expressed appreciation to Rick Knight for his service to the Division as Superintendent for most of the past four years.

### ***Elections:***

Directors' nominee for the open Director(2011) position was Fred Miller. He was elected by unanimous voice vote.

Joe Howard was the Directors' nominee for Asst Superintendent. He was elected by unanimous voice vote.

### ***MER:***

John Jonosko, MER VP, reported on a resolution at an MER board meeting last week. The Region has in the past presented an award at the National Convention in the name of Jim Teese for the highest contest score for a new modeller. The MER board voted not to renew the award. To continue it, they need a letter from the Division and money to cover the cost. It was started at the Philadelphia convention.

Michele Chance explained that Jim Teese helped organize the Division, was active at the Division and Region level, and published articles in Railroad Modeler magazine. He was awarded the MMR in 1992.

The Division will have to provide funding and either a representative to present the award at National or arrange to have some MER representative present it.

Steve August stated that he and Fred Miller had discussed a letter sent to Roger Cason, the SER president, the NMRA President, and several National Board members regarding moving some SC counties that adjoin the Division from SER to MER. Fred had noted that National is slow to act.

Steve August will send a letter to SER division and region to get list of members potentially affected and send a letter to those members to solicit interest. He has already talked with six to eight people and most have expressed interest.

John Jonosko said that two MER board members cannot run for reelection. Seven people have expressed interest in being nominated. Region will be sending out a ballot.

John Jonosko commented that the Piedmont Division will have a tour at the NC Transportation Museum on January 27.

### ***Superintendent:***

Steve said that plans for 2009 are still in progress. He expected to have six meetings. He may try a few different things.

The next Railroad Modelling University will be held Feb 21 at First Baptist Church in Uptown Charlotte. Joe Howard and Roy Becker are organizing.

Steve will work to arrange Division meetings at someone's house, followed by a layout tour. The first meeting should be in April or May. He is looking for new layouts to visit and welcomes any suggestions.

The Division is working on an Operations Weekend. Steve sent out 17 inquiries and has received several responses. Carl Wessel is assisting. There would be operating sessions on Friday night, Saturday, and Sunday afternoon on the way home. Looking at the October/November timeframe. The Raleigh NC RailRun is held every October. We expect to start here on a smaller scale, including us plus some neighboring divisions. We are developing a list of willing hosts and a committee to work on evaluating responses.

The next RMU will run 3 hours with 4 concurrent sessions of about 1 hour each.

Information will be posted to the web site today.

***New Business:***

Martin Oakes moved that the Division provide \$30.00 for the Jim Teese award. Dick Bronson seconded. Amendment was offered to make this for one year. Martin moved to accept the amendment, Jim Allen seconded.

Motion was accepted on voice vote.

Michele Chance agreed to provide a write up for the award presentation.

Becker moved to adjourn the meeting, second Rager. Passed on voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30

Submitted 5/20/09

Jack Haynes

Division Clerk