

**Carolina Southern Division  
Annual Business Meeting  
February 2, 2013**

Carolina Southern Division 2013 Annual Business Meeting was held at the Lone Star Steakhouse in Mooresville, NC, on February 2, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 11:12 am by Superintendent Bob Halsey. There were 17 members in attendance.

Annual reports were presented as follows:

- **Paymaster**, Bob Halsey: Our current balance is approximately \$3500. We had net income this year of about \$500.

- **Clerk**, Dave Draxler: The Division membership dropped a little from 2012 (133) to 127 and the end of 2012. This decrease was due to members moving out of the area and death.

- **Brookford Activity**, Gil Brauch: We held 12 open houses and 1 special showing entertaining a total of approximately 397 visitors. Over 75% of our visitors come during the hours of 10 am and 2 pm, so we are going to change the hours to that timeframe. For National Model Railroad Month in November, we hosted a swap meet in conjunction with our open house.

Restoration has been completed on 85% of the layout. 3 Division members, Michael Lethcoe, Carl Wessel and Gil Brauch, put in 237 man-hours of restoration work and hosting visitors during open houses this year. Total hours worked since project inception are approximately 2,675, or almost 67 work weeks. We will be continuing our work session/open house schedule in the coming year:

- Work sessions are on the second and fourth Thursday beginning at 6:30 pm.
- Open houses are on the second Saturday of each month from 10 am until 2 pm.

- **CSD Web Site**, Gil Brauch: This has been a 'quiet year' for the website. We made no major changes to the look and feel of the site. The registration service we started to use with RMU 2012 continues to work well. In fact, we used it successfully for a mini-survey in addition to registration for Rail Run 2012 and tables for the Swap Meet. The PayPal account still exists, but the issues during the past year with the Paymaster position have prevented us from using it because of access concerns.

The main addition to content is the addition of the Larry Lau Lending Library online content index. Our Librarian, Rick Knight, keeps it updated for us. The index shows which books and publications are in the library, but does not index the contents of the materials listed. As of the end of the year the index has many issues of the major model railroading magazines, some going back into the 1950's. You can use the index to either look for a particular publication or to see where there are 'gaps' in the library that you might be willing to fill in with a donation. Contact Rick Knight for more information.

- **Publications**, Jack Haynes: There were five issues of the Brass Pounder newsletter last year. CSD Members and friends receive the Brass Pounder Adobe .pdf format file on the Division website and a notification email with the web link when it is available. The newsletter currently has a distribution of about 200. Jack has made a concerted effort to establish better contact with all of our members by mailing a single page copy with just the first page (the calendar) and last page (Division Officer contact information) to members for whom we have no email address. Jack again encouraged everyone to send in pictures and articles for publication.

In addition to the Brass Pounder, a concerted effort by Rick Knight has seen the Carolina Southern Division "E-News" newsletter go out to all members by email. E-News contains information on upcoming events to serve as a reminder. This eNewsletter is also included on the CSD web site.

- **AP Program**, Dave Chance: There were four members receiving certificates this year with a total of 5 certificates (one Merit award, two Golden Spike awards, one Chief Dispatcher and one Master Builder Cars) In addition, ***Jack Parker was awarded the Master Model Railroader award*** – Jack is MMR #504 – Congratulations Jack!

- **Railroad Modeling University**, Bob Halsey: no "official" report; there will have a stand alone meeting to discuss lessons learned at Larry Paffrath's home Sunday Feb 10th at 2pm.

- **RailRun Weekend**: No report – watch the CSD website for developments

- **Nominating Committee**, Bob Halsey:

- Nomination for Paymaster - John Stevens - nominated/closed/elected
- Nomination for Director - Gil Brauch - nominated/closed/elected
- Recognition for Services Rendered:
  - *Jim Rager* received recognition for completing 3 year term as Director, and for serving as annual picnic planner/chef
  - *Bob Wessmiller* for taking charge of planning and setting up various visits and helping plan and prepare the annual picnic
  - *Gil Brauch* for doing a great job as Webmaster and as Brookford project manager
  - *Brent Johnson* and *Dale Gowing* for supporting Model Railroading over at least the past 3 years.

Members were reminded of two upcoming conventions:

- 2013 MER Convention in Rockville, MD, October 10-13
- 2013 NMRA Convention in Atlanta, GA, July 14-20

The Annual CSD Business Meeting was adjourned at 12:46 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Dave Draxler, CSD Clerk