



SERVES THE UPSTATE

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Newsletter
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**NEXT
MEETING
JULY 2, 2015**

7:10 PM

**AT THE
CENTRAL
RAILWAY
MUSEUM**

NMRA SOUTHEAST REGION CONVENTION

Reports by Jim Alexander, Don Baldwin, and Howard Garner

On Saturday, June 6th, we had 24 to 30 visitors pass through the museum and Function Junction from the NMRA Southeastern Regional Convention. The layouts operated well, and we received many compliments from our visitors. Some photos have been published online in the SER-NMRA

Howard Garner, now a Master Model Railroader [Congratulations, Howard!] reports:

On Sunday we did a 3 plus hour operating session with the Greenville Excursion NMRA/SER convention. We had 5 guest operators plus several of our own assisting.

We received many great comments on the layout—both for the design for operations and the great scenery. Operations with the Scenario Cards went well. Our guests were experienced with operations and manly needed assistance with how to get from here to there.

Thanks to all the members for all the hard work on the layout over the last few months to get it prepped for the convention. And it was not just the last few months of hard work. We have been working towards this type of event since we started layout design and even the building renovations.

Again, my thanks to all that made this possible!



APPROACH SIGNALS



Upcoming Events for the

Central Railway Model & Historical Association

as well as regional shows and events worth mentioning

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**MUSEUM OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
EVERY SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
9AM TO 2 PM**

OPERATING SESSIONS SECOND THURSDAYS (USUALLY) 7PM

**JULY 9, 2015
AUGUST 13, 2015**

The CRM&HA has begun regular operating sessions on the Thursday preceding our Museum's open house each month. Club members interested in learning how to operate the layout and gain their certification in order to be able to run trains on the museum layout are encouraged to attend these sessions.

If you have locomotives equipped with DCC decoders and/or you have a Digitrax handheld throttle, please bring them. This way, we can be assured of having enough equipment to run.

**PROGAM NIGHTS
THIRD THURSDAYS @ 7:15PM
90 minute model railroading clinics
and other programs**

SCHEDULED EVENTS & SHOWS

July 4, 2015

Bryson City, NC – Freedom Train

Great Smoky Mountains Railroad

Saturday: 7:30 pm

Admission: see website for fee schedule

<http://gsmr.com/events/freedom-train>

July 11, 2015

Conyers, GA – Public Run Days with the North Georgia Live Steamers

Conyers & Hightower Trail Railroad

1632 Centennial Olympic Parkway

Saturday: 1-4pm

Admission: \$2 per ride per person

<http://www.noregeorgialivesteamers.org/>

August 8, 2015

Atlanta, GA – 49th Atlanta Model Train Show

North Atlanta Trade Center

Admission: No info

<http://www.gserr.com/shows.htm>



SERVES THE UPSTATE

Meeting Notes

Provided by Jim Alexander,
Treasurer

Joe F presided as Dan was sick.

Meeting called to order at 7:09.

Joe shared a message from Dan that included the following:

The year is half over we are looking good.

The NMRA event this coming weekend is important. Thanks to everyone for working hard to get ready for this event.

The Steering Committee met and approved purchasing a new chemical track cleaning car; cost is \$140 and will come out of Rolling Stock budget.

Have new curtains in the Lionel Room to cover the work desk. The curtains should remain done when no one is working there. Please keep this area orderly.

The push now is to get more members involved; we need folks to run trains at both the Museum and Function Junction. It is not complicated and there are many members who can show you the ropes. Operating both locations requires more operators.

June 18 will have folks with disabilities visiting. We will need lots of help.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Treasurer--Jim Alexander

Every area is in good shape with the exception of Rolling Stock which is approximately \$20 over spent. \$3,199.37 has been spent out of the \$10,355.00 budget. Cash on hand is \$11,595.05 as of June 1, 2015.

Secretary—Ralph Watson

CRM&HA patches are available at \$1.50 each and new Membership cards are available.

There were no other reports except for Lionel and Rail-fans reports. Mac shared information on Lionel switches and repairs being made to the switches.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

David reported on the Clinton Trip; he indicated it was well received. A special thanks to Pete and David for taking the portable layout and Thomas to Clinton.

16 Members attended the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:35.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome two new members of the CRMHA who joined us in June:

Grayson Moore

Clemson, SC

Roy Sabean

Greenville, SC



Above: A logging camp on Bob Folsom's N&W layout.

Below: A maintenance shed along the N&W right-of-way



Photos by J.T. Thorpe

RAILFANNING – WE WUZ ROBBED!

Photos and Report by J.T. Thorpe



We patiently waited for this train which we were assured was led by the Heritage Unit painted for MKT. Alas, the roving reporters neglected to tell us that the unit had been left in Atlanta! Shelton and some of our visitors caught photos anyway.



SALUDA 2001

Report & Photos by Don Baldwin

Here are some photos taken back in Nov 2001 just after the Saluda grade was shut down. I drove down from Saluda MP 32.1 2,099 ft. elevation, and ended up at Melrose MP 35, 1,494 ft elevation.

The timing zone begins at 34.40 and ends at 34.55. The track Crosses the Pacolet River and enters Melrose.



Note: From MP33.8 to 34.6 the descent may average as much as 5 %. **

The next photo is looking from the same spot eastward, showing the 1580 ft long 10% Number 2 safety track. That's my blue car.

Also shown is the double track which goes on down to MP 36.2 the Slaughter Pen Cut. I suspect that this is the area where helper locomotives were added for the uphill run.



Here is a dwarf signal definitely showing a stop aspect. It is at the west end of that double track.



**The Railmodelers Guide to Saluda Mtn. American Altavista.

LAYOUT VISIT: BOB FOLSOM'S NORFOLK & WESTERN

Photos and Report by J.T. Thorpe



Bob Folsom's layout was part of the layout tour for our NMRA SER Convention visitors. Bob and a crew of CRMHA volunteers have been putting in a lot of work to get it ready for the tour, and it operated well for his guests—who were all justifiably impressed (and jealous!) Many scenes on Bob's layout are based on photos of real places between Bluefield and Roanoke, VA



BOOK REVIEW: COMPACT LAYOUT DESIGN

Review by Ralph Watson

Compact Layout Design by Iain Rice

ISBN: 9780890249963, ISBN-10: 0890249962

Publisher: Kalmbach Books

Publication Date: April 2015

Soft cover 95 pages

Cover price: \$21.99 Listed as low as \$15.07 in a Google search

Iain Rice is a retired U.K. firefighter who despite the insidious infirmity of Parkinson's Disease earns his living designing, building, and writing about model railroads both in the U.S. and in Europe. He is well traveled as a railfan and has had a life-long interest in trains. His byline has appeared on 20 modeling book titles and more than 400 articles for model railroad magazines. This is his fourth book published by Kalmbach.

Containing his distinctive, hand-drawn and water colored (sometimes unbuildable as drawn) layout plans, Rice details the process of imagining, documenting, building, and operating the compact model railroad. To effectively design and build a compact layout one must consider more than just size and shape. You also need to look at how best to use the available space. Rice explains the techniques for designing a compact layout and shows how to design it for operation. All these considerations are grouped into a large sheaf of papers to become a blueprint and business plan he terms the 'Design Brief'. This collection of information "sets out the overall mission statement of the project and the various parameters it has to take account of". There is a Layout Rationale, Subject and Scale, Content and Scope, Modeling Standards, then Operational Design, Construction Planning, and Presentation/Visual Design elements. Each area has a number of sub-headings such as History, Geography, Level of Detail, Wiring, Materials, and Lighting.

The last chapters each describe a particular compact layout and how these concepts affected the design of that layout. Each layout is depicted as a full page or page and a half-satellite view:

- 1880s Nevada narrow gauge railroad in On30
- 1940s-50s Arkansas short line in HO
- World War II U.S. Army stateside base in HO
- Upper New York bridge line in N
- Eastern coal railroad in HO
- Midwestern branch line in HO
- Pacific Northwestern waterfront railroad in N
- New England main line in HO

Over a hundred photographs (75 color) by the author as well as by Lou Sassi, Paul Dolkos, Tony Koester, Mallory Ferrell, Mike Confalone, Jim Hediger, Jim Shaughnessy and others supplement the text well.

BOOK REVIEW

Continued

I found the opening chapters on the philosophy of a compact layout slightly heavy (Are we there yet?) but intelligent reading. Rice does like to throw in the occasional word that sends the reader to the Thesaurus. There is much useful material here when contrasted to the one paragraph descriptions in familiar books such as 101 Track Plans or the short articles in MR. The chapters devoted to each single layout are well edited down to the basics of locale, era, scenery, equipment, and operating scheme. The track plan illustrations in some cases have too many grid lines and tracks overlapping and they blend together. A brighter palette and more contrast would make the images crisper. The 1.5 page plates are printed with considerable overlap so one large image can be constructed by scanning each leaf and then registering the images on the grid lines.

Certainly I will apply a few of the concepts and various excerpted track segment designs to my own home layout which will soon begin its 4th (5th?) year of not being constructed yet –A.K.A.: Google “analysis paralysis”.



Station at Landrum in 2002 by Don Baldwin

REPAIR IN PLACE?

Report & Photos by Bob Folsom

I looked out the window the other day to see what train activity was taking place, and they were replacing a broken knuckle on a southbound train while another southbound looked on.



MUSEUM SCENES

Photos by Sage Viehe



Down the line from Pisgah Junction are the outskirts of Brevard. This is obviously the wrong side of the tracks, and you definitely don't want to get on the wrong side of the Suds Bucket's bartender. The emergency squad and police have arrived just in time....

