

# *THE BRASS POUNDER*

**NATIONAL MODEL RAILROADERS ASSOCIATION  
MID-EAST REGION, DIVISION 12, CAROLINA SOUTHERN  
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER** **EDITION 4 FOR YEAR 2002**

## **EDITORIAL COMMENT**

I hope that you have enjoyed your summer. While most of us take a break during the summer months to spend time with our families and work around the house, the model railroad manufacturers have been busy releasing new products and announcing upcoming products.

I attended the National Convention in July and the MER convention in October in Cherry Hill. I can honestly say that because the way these conventions were run, the costs involved, and the lack of substance received, they may be the last of the conventions I attend.

The year 2003 will be the most precarious year in the short history of Division 12. As I expressed to the members of the board, this is the year that all members must step up and be counted by taking responsibility for new members and division leadership.

We have started to meet on alternate months at member's homes or member arranged venues. Ed Locklin's slide show, Martin Oakes day at the Lake with clinics and layout show and tell and Jack Parker's Picnic that included clinics, forest tour and operations plus eats were fun, informative, and what Model Railroading is all about.

We plan to continue this type of programming in 2003. We started some modeling sessions in 2002 and

hopefully we can continue them in 2003. The stronger emphasis on the A/P program is planned

Hope to see you all at the January Annual meeting.

Larry Lau

## **OFFICER NOMINATIONS**

At the Board of Directors meeting it was decided, due to our small number, that we combine the office of Clerk and Paymaster. However, since that date a number of the board members and officers have judged that a bad decision. Therefore we will have a full slate.

The following officers have been nominated by the Board of Directors to serve during the years 2003-2004.

Superintendent: Larry Lau  
Assistant Super: Jack Parker  
Clerk: Martin Oaks  
Paymaster: Dick Bronson  
Director to serve 2003,2004, & 2005  
Dave Chance

Returning officers are:  
Ed Locklin, Term expires end of 2003  
Michele Chance, Term expires end of 2004

The elections will be held at the Annual Membership Meeting scheduled for January 18, 2003 to be held at the Waxhaw Fire Station

Nominations will be accepted from the floor. To serve as an officer or director the person must be member in good standing of the NMRA, MER, and the Division. Only those members who are NMRA and MER members that have paid there 2002 or 2003 dues to the division prior to the meeting will be eligible to vote. The Paymaster will post a list those members that are eligible to vote prior to the meeting.

Directions to the Meeting: From 485 East End the best bet is 16. From 77 and 485 West End you can come down Johnson Rd - Lancaster Hwy (521) to Hwy 75 and take it into Waxhaw. (4 miles) At the light (Hwy 16) turn left and cross over the tracks and turn right and look for a parking spot. From the east (Monroe) go west on 75 till you reach Waxhaw. (11 miles) Turn right across the tracks then right again and hunt a parking spot. (Probably none left now because of all the people coming in from the other directions). If there is no parking left near the fire station, then loop around the block and park in the big gravel lot at the intersection with 16. You will then have a one-block walk back to the station. Basically if you can get to the center of the town of Waxhaw, then you are in sight of the wooden bridge and the fire station.

The meeting will start at 9:30 AM unless CSX has something moving and then the meeting will start after the passing of the train. Coffee and Donuts will be served. (Donation cup available). We will also have swap tables available for those of you that have extra items for trade or sale. Please let Dick Bronson know how much "stuff" you are bringing so we can provide adequate tables.

#### **DIVISION MEETS**

We had to cancel the meeting at Dick Bronson's home that was originally scheduled for the end of October and due to conflicts moved to November. The date selected then conflicted with the Belmont club module assembly date for the Christmas show. Our module is an eight-foot section of their layout and Dick will be busy transporting, installing, and testing the module that day.

The meet scheduled for Gerry Adleman's home in late November has also been cancelled due to scheduling conflicts.

#### **A/P PROGRAM PLANS**

One of the major discussions at the board meeting and followed up at Jack Parker's meeting in September was the Achievement Program of the NMRA. Members expressed a desire to have models, structures, layouts, trackwork, scenery, and electrical systems judged. To this end, each member is to prepare the necessary paperwork.

To facilitate things, it was decided that we would have a general meeting at a central location where all of the models would be judged, and then we would make a round robin tour to layouts for that judging.

I am requesting that each of you contact me either by e-mail or snail mail, and advise me the best weekend dates in February or March that we can schedule this meeting. In addition, I would need to know what you plan to offer for judging. Give me the model count and what you want judged on your layout. This way we can plan on how much time will be needed to adequately cover these activities.

Once we settle on a date, the President, Vice President and the A/P chair of the MER have indicated to me that they will come to Charlotte and do the judging.

In addition, the date selected would be our monthly meeting. We would hope that everyone, even if you do not enter anything for judging, would attend and observe how the judges score the models and to support the MER and the Division

#### **A/P CHAIRMAN**

Phil Bostian has resigned as our A/P chairman. Because of our small size, we will not be appointing a new chair but will rely upon the MER for the judging.

#### **DUES**

The Division Dues of \$7.00 for year 2003 are **due** and **payable** at the January meeting. Please make arrangements with the Paymaster to pay your dues.

#### **WEB SITE**

We have been having some trouble with our Web Site. Martin Oakes has volunteered to host the site and get it working again. We plan to have the Current Officers, by-laws, Current and Past Issues of the Brass Pounder, and a Calendar of events. If anyone has additional suggestions or any questions please get in touch with Martin. We will be sending out the new link once it is established and working.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

November 23, Holiday Train Show and Flea Market at Dixie Classic Fairgrounds, Winston-Salem. 10 AM to 4 PM

January 18, Division Annual Meeting. Waxhaw Fire Station, 9:30 AM. Meeting, Elections, and Swap meet.