



THE BRASS POUNDER



Newsletter of the Carolina Southern Division 12, Mid-Eastern Region,
National Model Railroad Association

Volume 21 Number 9

September 2021

Division Coming Events

(See [CSD Website](#) for
further details)

Next Division meeting

**Saturday,
Sept 25th
1:00pm - ?
At the PICNIC**

**Jack Parker's
House
12012 Abernathy
Rd,
Charlotte, NC
28216-9738**

**Two more Work
Sessions at
Newton Depot
Saturday, Sept
11th and 18th
10:00am –
1:00pm**

**1115 North Main
Avenue, Newton, NC**

Superintendent's Corner

By Alan Hardee

Sorry I missed you all at the August meeting at the Newton Depot. I was celebrating 34 years with my beautiful bride Jenny. We did get in some train activity though. We rode on the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad in the "Carolina Shine" lounge car for the moonshine experience. The shine was already flowing before the train left the depot at 10:30 A.M. The train was pulled by their freshly repainted GP38-3 in the military veteran's scheme. A picture is on the next page.

This month we visit Jack Parker and the P & W Railroad for the Annual CSD Picnic on September 25th. I know it's a week later than normal but Jack asked for this date specifically. Members and families are invited to this event. You bring a side dish and/or dessert, and the division provides the drinks, burgers, and hotdogs. Please register on the CSD website so we have a headcount and what item you will bring. We will begin around 1:00 P.M. for meet and greet and eat at 2:00 P.M. I realized after the date was set that this is also the Thomas weekend at the NC Transportation Museum. Hopefully with the 2:00 meal, members can work the morning at Spencer and still make the picnic.

Don't forget that we have two more work sessions at the Newton Depot on the Wade's Train Town layout. We will be putting the finishing touches on during the sessions on September 11th and 18th. We will certainly celebrate the completion of this moving project at the picnic.

Make plans to join us at the Marriott Delta Hunt Valley Hotel this October 21-24, 2021 and visit the convention website to register. Mount Clare Junction – The 2021 NMRA Mid-Eastern Region Model Railroad Convention (mtclarejct.com)

Several of our Division members are heading to the convention and this will take the place of our October meeting. If you are needing a ride, check with other members in your area to carpool together. Dave and I are going up together from the Gastonia area and will have space for up to two more.

I hope to see you at the picnic on the 25th.



Celebrating their 34th wedding anniversary, Superintendent Alan Hardee and wife Jenny pose with Great Smoky Mountain Railroad GP38-3 #1009 in its new military veterans paint scheme.

UPCOMING AREA TRAIN EVENTS

**Autumn Rails 2021
All Scales Train Show
Friday Oct 1st
12:00 – 6:00pm
Saturday Oct 2nd
10:00am to 4:00pm
WNC Agricultural Center
Expo Building
785 Boylston Hwy
Fletcher, NC 28732**

**The Southeastern Region
Convention is next up in
Greenville, SC. It starts
October 9th.
See the Upcoming
Convention news
starting on Page 7.**

Editor's Notes

By Ed Gumphrey

It's a pleasure being able to publish notification of the Division's Annual Picnic. As things get back to normal, we'll gather at the home of Jack Parker, MMR, for the event on Saturday, September 25th. Be sure to register on the Division's website so we'll know how much food to prepare.

It's also a pleasure to expand the banner on the left to list a train show in the area. The Fletcher show is coming up the 1st and 2nd of October at the WNC Agricultural Center. This is one of the best train shows near the heart of the Division.

This is a light newsletter this month. Ed Smith has been focused on the Newton project, so he didn't have time to make much more progress in his military train. He'll have an update for us next month.

When I was talking with Ed, he was downright apologetic for not having another article for me this month. I assured him he didn't need to worry and should enjoy a brief writer's vacation.

That makes a good segue to a solicitation for more inputs. I know a lot of our Division members are working on various layout projects. Please consider taking some pictures and writing up what you've been working on. I'll be happy to help you share your work with the Division.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

I target the 1st of each month for publication. Please submit articles for publication by the 27th of each month.

The preferred format is MS Word, but I can convert most other formats.

For questions and help, email me at editor@carolinasouthern.org

Train Town Relocation Progress

Gil Brauch, MMR - Project Manager

WE ARE ALMOST THERE!!!

During our four official work sessions during August we reached our goal of having the layout “show ready”. All buildings are in place and lighted. New streetlights make a visual “pop” for the spectators. Vehicles and people once again populate the town and its environs. Trains run smoothly on the mainlines and the trolley makes its rounds according to schedule. The fascia has been painted and layout skirts installed. Thanks to the following guys for their dedicated work in making things work and attending to all the details: Gil Brauch, Ed Gumphrey, Keith Iritsky, Fred Miller, Larry Paffrath, Danny Poole, Ken Riddick, Ed Smith, John Yarborough III, and John Yarborough.

By the time you read this we would have already held a preview showing for attendees at the Narrow Gauge Convention on September 1-4. That gave us a trial run to work out any ‘kinks’ before our Grand Re-opening to the public on October 2. We will have a ‘ribbon cutting’ at 11 am on that day and the layout will be open to the public until 4 pm.

We are nearing the ‘home stretch’, but still need workers to show up during September to make a museum quality setting for Wade’s work of art. There are scheduled work sessions on the second and third Saturdays during September. We normally work from 10 am until 1 pm.

WORKING ON THE MUSEUM QUALITY SETTING

Now that we have completed most of the layout work, we need to focus on bringing the room and setting up to ‘museum quality’ standards. We will be installing signs, hanging legacy calendars, creating a display of Wade’s workbench, creating a “Modeler’s Corner” for future clinics, and much more. On the layout itself we need to install Plexiglas shields, and the ‘push-to-play’ buttons that Fred Miller has developed for the carnival and skating rink. We should not be satisfied until the whole exhibit reflects favorably not only on the work of Wade Warren, but on the outstanding skills and abilities which exist within our Division.

There is plenty to be done, so helpers are more than welcome. Our work schedule is posted on the Calendar page of our website. Check it out at <http://carolinasouthern.org/calendar.html> and pick a day or two to come help out. And remember that you get AP Volunteer points for each month you attend.



As of August 28, 2021 we are almost ready for our Grand Opening on October 2. The walls need some 'dressing up' and some of the other visible elements in the room need to be sorted out, so workers are still needed in September.



Here is another view of how the room and layout looked on August 28, 2021.

DIVISION AND REGIONAL NEWS

By Ed Gumphrey



It's Division Annual Picnic time!

This month we visit Jack Parker and the P & W Railroad for the Annual CSD Picnic on September 25th. It's a week later than normal but Jack asked for this date specifically. Members and families are invited to this event. You bring a side dish and/or dessert, and the Division provides the drinks, burgers, and hotdogs. Please register on the CSD website so we have a head count and know what item you will bring. We will begin around 1:00 pm. for meet and greet and eat at 2:00 pm.

This is also the Thomas weekend at the NC Transportation Museum. Hopefully with the 2:00 meal, members can work the morning at Spencer and still make the picnic.

Jack's house is at 12012 Abernathy Rd, Charlotte, NC 28216-9738.

Once again, the big activity story for the past month was our continuing efforts reassembling the sections of Wade's Train Town at its new home in the Model Railroad Center at Newton Depot. The work sessions continued to be well attended, and there's a good summary in the preceding article from Gil Brauch, MMR.

As previously noted, there will also be work sessions on the next two Saturdays, September 11th and 18th. Hope to see you there.

UPCOMING CONVENTION NEWS

The National Narrow Gauge Convention in Newton was held September 1st through the 4th. As Gil Brauch, MMR, noted in his update, work on Wade's Train World was completed in time for the Convention. I spoke briefly with Ed Smith who was there for Saturday's open house event. He said there were over 50 visitors who signed the roster, and he estimates there were probably 75 visitors. There were visitors from all over the country and our work preserving Wade's seems to have been well received.

Several Division members were also hosting layout tours. I also spoke with Neal Anderson, MMR, who hosted visitors at his KKL Railroad. Neal received over 120 visitors from all corners of the country. From Oregon to Maine and California to Florida, visitors all seemed to enjoy Neal's trains – both the HO and the 7½" gauge. His trains ran flawlessly, a testament to Neal's exacting work. Neal enjoyed having the visitors, and encourages others to host tours when we host the MER Convention in 2022.

Seth Garland's layout was also open for tours. Seth told me he was open for three days and had about 70 people come through to see the Piney Fork Branch. He said at times it was busy, but mostly the flow allowed relaxed conversation and answering a multitude of questions on everything from designing the railroad, its construction, scenery choices, and even the history of the branch in Ohio. Seth also expressed his thanks to those who aided in showing off the railroad; Dave Thrums, Glen Frix, Richard Smith, and John Shefte without whose help the days would have been much more hectic.

Andrew Stitt was open for tours as well. He is still scheduled for some visitors to stop by on their homeward return trips. I'll have some more news from Andrew next month.

NEXT UP:



The SER Convention is being hosted by
the Palmetto Division at The Hilton Hotel
in Greenville, SC

September 9 – 12, 2021

Information at:

<https://swamprabbitexpress.org>

Download their [overview](#)

FOLLOWED BY:



The MER Convention is being hosted by
the Mount Clare Division at The Delta
Hunt Valley
October 21 - 24, 2021

Information at:
<https://mtclarejct.com>

This is the Convention for our Region that Superintendent Alan Hardee mentioned in his comments on Page 1. Don't miss Alan's offer for a ride.

CLOSING PAGE BONUS



In addition to the new paint scheme on their GP-38, GSMRR also boasts steam operation.

Division Brass

<u>Superintendent</u>	Alan Hardee	superintendent@carolinasouthern.org
<u>Asst. Superintendent</u>	Andrew Stitt	assistsuper@carolinasouthern.org
<u>Clerk</u>	Ed Gumphrey	clerk@carolinasouthern.org
<u>Paymaster</u>	David Thrans	Paymaster@carolinasouthern.org
<u>Director 2022</u>	Ed Smith	director1@carolinasouthern.org
<u>Director 2023</u>	Scott Perry	director2@carolinasouthern.org
<u>Director 2024</u>	Larry Paffrath	director3@carolinasouthern.org
<u>AP Chairman</u>	Neal Anderson, MMR	Apchair@carolinasouthern.org
<u>Webmaster</u>	Joe Skorch	Webmaster@carolinasouthern.org
<u>Newsletter Editor</u>	Ed Gumphrey	editor@carolinasouthern.org
<u>Program Chair</u>	Scott Perry	program@carolinasouthern.org
<u>RMU Chair</u>	Doug Algire	RMUchair@carolinasouthern.org
<u>Publicity Chair</u>	Marcus Neubacher	publicity@carolinasouthern.org
<u>Membership</u>	Nancy Campbell	membership@carolinasouthern.org