



# THE BRASS POUNDER



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

Volume 22 Number 1

January 2022

## Division Coming Events

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

## **DIVISION ANNUAL MEETING**

**The Division's  
Annual Meeting  
will be held on  
Saturday, January  
15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am  
in the Conference  
Room at Newton  
Depot  
1123 N Main Ave,  
Newton, NC.**

**Happy New Year.**

## Superintendent's Corner

By Alan Hardee

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! Welcome to 2022, a new year and a new chapter for the Carolina Southern Division. This is my 58<sup>th</sup> Superintendent's Corner for the Brass Pounder. I have enjoyed serving as your Superintendent for the last six years. As they say, all good things must come to an end. In this case, to make way for better things for the Division. My term as Superintendent may be ending but I will still be around serving in another position.

Director Ed Smith, Paymaster Dave Thrans, Clerk Ed Gumphrey, and Asst. Super Andrew Stitt are all eligible for re-election. Joe Skorch has offered to fulfill the Director position vacated by Scott Perry. Andrew Stitt has mentioned running as Superintendent. If YOU wish to run for one of these positions, we will take open nominations at the beginning of the meeting. Please step up and offer your services to the division.

This month's Annual meeting will be January 15<sup>th</sup> in the conference room at the Newton Depot starting at 10 A.M. The museum is located at 1123 N. Main Ave. Newton, NC. I hope to see everyone there.

I consider Everyone in Division 12 as a friend and I look forward to making new friends in 2022.

---

# HELP!! – C'mon Folks...

by Gil Brauch, MMR

I know you do not want to hear this 'broken record', but "Train Town needs volunteers" (click) "Train Town needs volunteers" (click) "Train Town needs....". Well, you get the point. All we need is for you, yes YOU, as one of our 90+ members in the Division to dedicate a Saturday once every six months or so to co-host the Wade's Train Town layout that is sponsored and maintained by the Division at the Newton Depot's Model Railroad Center. If we as individuals are not willing to do that small task, how in the world are we ever going to pull off a major convention in October?

Oh, by the way, the year-end wrap-up of Train Town activities is as follows:

- From January through September, the number of Division members participating in the move from Brookford to Newton stands at 21 during 26 work sessions, with most of those working between March and September.
- From October through the end of the year, the number of Division members participating as hosts stands at 14 serving during 21 sessions and hosting 384 visitors.

The duties of a Train Town Co-Host are simple. You greet folks as they arrive at the layout, give them a quick overview of its history (we have 'cheat sheets' to help with that), answer questions, and monitor the layout in case a train 'acts up'. The time involved is on a Saturday of your choice between 9:45 and 4:15 at the Newton Depot Model Railroad Center, 1115 N. Main Street, Newton, NC. That's all there is to it. You will have a member of the Leadership Team to co-host with you.

Of course, we would like to know who is coming on which day, so we have a signup process. Simply check your calendar for the weekend that suits you best. Then go to the Division website and fill out a form at this link:

<http://carolinasouthern.org/ttvolunteerrequest.html> .

As you fill out the form, check the box next to the weekend(s) you have selected. Then hit the "Submit" button. This will send an email to the Leadership Team and one of them will contact you by return email to confirm your date and provide you with some additional information. That's all there is to it. As of this writing, we have a need for at least one volunteer on January 22 and every weekend in February and March. If you wish to plan further ahead into the spring (April/May/June), please send an email to [wadestrain@carolinasouthern.org](mailto:wadestrain@carolinasouthern.org) and one of the leadership team will get right back to you.

---

## **UPCOMING AREA TRAIN EVENTS**

**Central Railway Museum  
Model [Train Expo 2022](#)  
Friday Feb 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
12:00-6:00pm and  
Saturday Feb 19<sup>th</sup>  
9:00am – 3:00pm  
Rock Springs Church  
Impact Center  
207 Rock Springs Rd.  
Easley, SC 29642**

### **30<sup>th</sup> Annual Model Train Show**

**Friday Feb 25<sup>th</sup>  
12:00-7:00pm and  
Saturday Feb 26<sup>th</sup>  
9:00am – 5:00pm  
WNC Agricultural Center  
775 Boylston Hwy,  
Fletcher, NC 28732**

**Fort Mill SC  
Model Train Show  
April 9th  
9:00am – 3:00pm  
Clarion Hotel  
3695 Foothills Way  
Fort Mill, SC 29708**

## **Editor's Notes**

By Ed Gumphrey

As I start my fifth year as your editor, Alan Hardee is ending his final term as Superintendent. If it weren't for Alan's efforts, you wouldn't be reading this.

When I retired and moved to Shelby, I became an MER orphan. I had previously been a member of the Tidewater Division of the MER when I lived in Virginia Beach. After getting settled in, I looked at the NMRA Region and Division maps online. Lo and behold, Cleveland County was shown as part of the MER, but not part of any Division. I contacted the Presidents of both the MER and SER and confirmed that I was still in the MER, but not associated with any Division. That email exchange led to contact with Alan, who was new to his position. I was pleased to learn that Alan was working to add Cleveland County to the Division, along with three counties in South Carolina. Alan was successful in late 2017, and I became a member of CSD in time to attend my first annual picnic at the home of Jack Parker, MMR. That event let me meet many other members, and started new friendships.

Alan Convinced me to run as Clerk and to take over as editor of The Brass Pounder from Fred Miller, MMR. The rest is history.

I'll close by noting that this is a slim edition (only five pages), illustrating my need for more contributors. Let me know what you're working on and I'll help you share it with the Division membership through an article in this newsletter.

Happy New Year.

### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

I target the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month for publication. Please submit articles for publication by the 27<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:editor@carolinasouthern.org)

---

## DIVISION AND REGIONAL NEWS

By Ed Gumphrey

As Gil Brauch, MMR reports in his update on page 2, Train Town is being well received at Newton Depot, but volunteers are still needed for upcoming weekends. Here's the Box Score for December. Follow the link to volunteer to help and get your name added to the list. Like Gil said, C'mon folks.

### Train Town Box Score

December 2021

Open Houses      10

Attendance        127

Hosts: Gil Brauch (3), Bob Halsey (2), Keith Iritsky (4), David Myers (r), Tim Rust (r), Joe Skorch (r), Ed Smith (4)

To volunteer, go to:

<http://carolinasouthern.org/ttvolunteerrequest.html>

(#)=frequency (r)=first time host

In case you skipped past Alan Hardee's final Superintendent's Corner message, and if you missed the banner on Page 1, the Division's Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. The meeting will be in the Conference Room at Newton's Depot Model Railroad Center, 1115 N Main Street, Newton, NC.

There's no other Division news to report. As the new year swings into action, I'm sure there will be more news from Neal Anderson, MMR, about the upcoming MER Convention we will host in October. We'll also have some news about a new Superintendent and new board members.

See you at the meeting.

## CLOSING PAGE BONUS



***North Georgia Live Steamers continued  
their tradition of starting the New Year  
with a fun day of trains.***

***Happy New Year.  
Photo from website***

### Division Brass

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