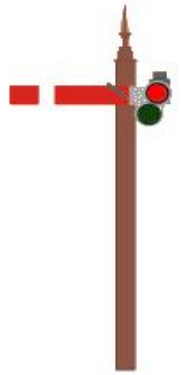


The Semaphore

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
WNC MODEL RAILROADERS, INC.



February 2010

VOLUME 39 NUMBER 6

Our next meeting is on February 4th at 7 PM.

Send comments about and contributions to this newsletter to [editor](#).

Please keep us informed of changes in your address, phone number or email address.



Jack Mershon displayed more of his high quality scratch-built structures at the meeting



NEWS FOR OUR MEMBERS

OUR NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be starting at **7 PM** on **Thursday February 4th**.

Clinic: **Gordon Fewster** will present a slide show from a visit to the May '07 Cass Railfan Weekend in West Virginia.

Raffle Ticket: We have reach a 100 tickets sold. We need more sales, please join in the fun. Contact [Fred Coleman](#) for more info.

SUMMARY OF THE MEETING, JANUARY 14, 2010

The meeting scheduled for January 7 was postponed due to weather. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Bill Seibert, representing the nominating committee presented a slate of officers to fill the empty positions, proposing **Fred Coleman** for superintendent and **Dave Anderson** for assistant superintendent. There were no nominations from the floor. The proposed slate was adopted by affirmative voice vote. They will serve until the regular elections are held later this year. The other officers will continue to serve.

Fred Coleman reported on the Train Show, scheduled for March 5 and 6 in the new Exhibition Building at the WNC Agriculture Center. With over 30,000 square feet of floor space, there is plenty of room for exhibitors and layouts, and he is looking for both. He reported that over 50 tables were rented, but hoped to double that number. There is a space for running our usual food concession. There is also plenty of free parking and easy access, making this venue much more attractive than others we have used.

We all need to get the word out and promote this important event and plan to participate.

Fred circulated a list asking all present to verify their NMRA status. He reported that he will apply to NMRA to have us recognized as a 100 percent NMRA club.

During the break we had an opportunity to admire several of **Jack Mershon's** latest creations. *We thank him for the opportunity to see them* and hopefully inspiring us to build better buildings for our own model pikes.

Joseph Norris provide us with an entertaining and informative presentation focusing on layout design that will add interesting operational aspects to a model railroad where space is limited. Like how to pass two trains when the sidings are not long enough for either train. He also brought up some classic switching puzzle arrangements. **Great job Joe**, *thank for the thought provoking presentation.*

**WNC MODEL RAILROADERS IS ON FACEBOOK AS A GROUP
(FOR THOSE THAT KNOW WHAT THAT IS,
IF NOT ASK SOMEONE YOUNGER IN AGE)**



NEWS FOR OUR MEMBERS (CONT.)

A BRIEF REPORT ON THE LAND O'SKY, (DIVISION 15, SER, NMRA) MEETING

As a consideration to our members we are including a report on the **Land O'Sky** meeting. (NOTE: The **Land O'Sky** is a division of the Southeastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association. As defined by **Article VII of [NMRA regulations](#)** , all **NMRA** members residing in the following zip codes in western NC, are **Land O'Sky** members: 28018, -24, -40, -43, -76, 28139, 28604, -14, -16, -18, -22, -46, -52, -53, -57, -62, -64, 28701, -04, -05, 28707 through 34, 28736 through 39, 28741, -42, -45, -46, -48, -49, 28751 through 54, 28756, -58, 28760 through 62, -66, -68, 28770 through 72, 28774, -84, 28786 through 90, 28792, -93, 28801 through 06, 28901, -02, -04, -06, and -09)

Land O'Sky held its quarterly meeting on January 16 at the library in Fletcher.

Superintendent *Frank Pearsall* welcomed those present. *Frank* introduced *Ken O'Brian* as the Assistant Superintendent, *Mike Nicoletti* as the Paymaster and *Ben Bartlett* as the Company Clerk *Ben Bartlett* will also serve as the AP Chainman.

Elections were held. The officers listed above were elected. In an effort to provide continuity, elections for the several offices will be staggered. *Frank* and *Mike* will serve for two years; *Ken* and *Ben* will serve for one year.

Land O'Sky bylaws were presented, discussed, and approved.

Mike reported that a chat group has been established at Landofskydiv@yahoo.com.

Fred Coleman reported on **the WNC Model Railroaders' 20th Annual Train Show** scheduled for March 5 and 6 at the WNC Agriculture Center.

Fred Coleman is a Candidate for Vice president of the Southeastern Region, NMRA. The Region Convention is in Birmingham, Alabama, May 21 and 22.

Dan Lang reported on progress at the Depot in Hendersonville. The Asheville Division of the **Apple Valley Model Railroad** has been dismantled and renovations to the room are underway. A new layout will be built with a goal of having trains running by Labor Day 2010.

Chuck Place reported that **the French Broad "N'pire Railroad** is temporarily shut down due to the cold weather, but will resume operations in the spring. They also have a commitment to a major renovation with a rearrangement of the existing modules and construction of several more that will double the running distance for trains traveling on their layout. They will have a show on April 24.

Frank displayed an interesting structure and described the paint used and the process for adding advertising signs to the building.

Ben Bartlett offered an interesting presentation on the **NMRA Gold Spike** award and encouraged participation.

The next meeting of **Land O'Sky** is scheduled for April 17.



EVENTS FOR MODELERS:

Toy Train Sale

Sponsored by Southeastern Division of the Train Collectors Association
Kerr Scott Building, NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, North Carolina
February 7th, Hours: 10:00am – 3:30pm
Check out their [website](#) for details

Our 20th Trains Show

See [next page](#) for flyer and [door prize raffle](#). For the latest detail see the [website](#).

15th Annual Train Show

Sponsored by the Carolina Coastal Railroaders on March 6 & 7, 2010.
The oldest and largest Train Show in Eastern North Carolina! at New Bern High School
Check out their [website](#) for details

The Best Little Train Show in Greensboro, NC

There will be a train show in Greensboro on Saturday, March 13
at the Depot, 236 East Washington Street.

The Model Train Show 2010

Sponsored by The Piedmont Division, at the Cobb Galleria Centre,
2 Galleria Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30339.
March 13th and 14th, 2010
Saturday: 10 - 5 & Sunday: 10 - 4
Check out their [website](#) for details

Great Train Expo

Dixie County Fairgrounds, Winston-Salem, NC
March 27 & 28
11 AM—4 PM
Check out their [website](#) for details

8th Annual North Carolina Railroad Expo

Sponsored by the Alexander Chapter-NRHS
Hickory Metro & Convention Center (The Hickory Metro Center is located at Interstate 40 Exit 125.)
Hickory, NC
April 10, 2010 from: 9:00am – 4:00pm
Check out their [website](#) for details



EVENTS FOR MODELERS: (CONT.)

2010 SOUTHEASTERN REGION CONVENTION

THE BIRMINGHAM SPECIAL

“YOUR LAYOUT, FROM CONCEPT TO REALITY”

MAY 21-23, 2010

THE BESSEMER CIVIC CENTER



BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

2010

The clinics will evolve around giving you all the information you need to design and build your own railroad empire.

“The Birmingham Special” [Convention Registration Form](#)

For the latest information check out the [SER Website](#).

NMRA 2010 CONVENTION

NMRA 75TH ANNIVERSARY

JULY 11-18, 2010

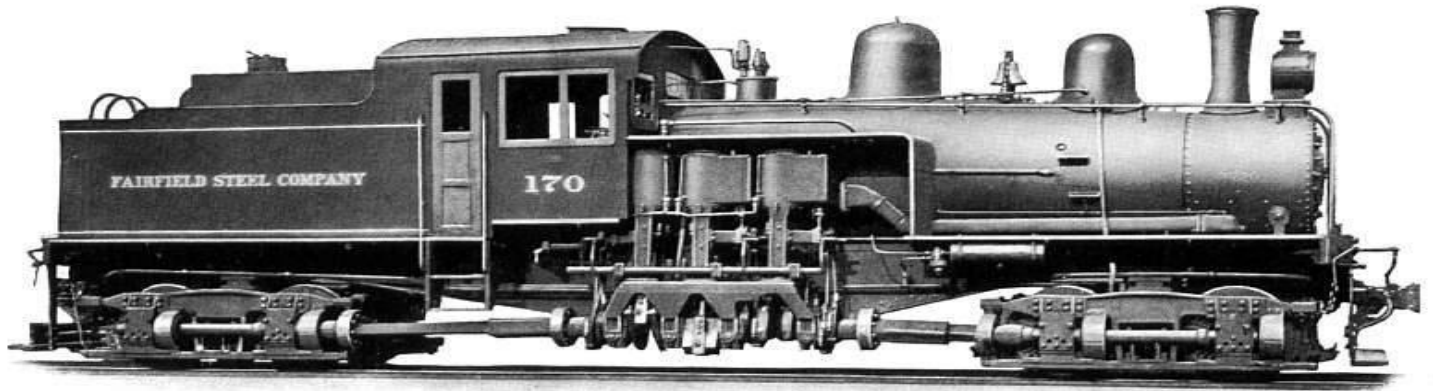


The convention will be held at the Midwest Airline Center located on Wisconsin and Fourth in Downtown Milwaukee. We have planned an outstanding modeling program and an excellent general interest program, so bring the entire family. There are special events to choose from each night of the week. There will be operating sessions, layout tours, prototype tours, clinics on Midwestern topics and of course the contests and silent auction.

For the latest information check out [the website](#).

WNC Model Railroaders, Inc.

20th Annual Model Train Show



Will be held at

WNC AG CENTER

From *North/East/West*: I-26 East, then exit 40 turn right at end of the ramp, then...
From *Hendersonville/South*: I-26 West to exit 40, turn left at the end of the ramp then...

...go just past the airport, WNC AG Center will be on the left hand side use Gate #5 and follow the signs to the show

March 5 & 6, 2010

Friday March 5, Noon to 7 PM

Saturday March 6, 9 AM to 4:30 PM

**Free
Parking**

ADMISSION:

\$5.00 PER DAY

(Children under 13 FREE with adult)

**Free
Parking**

THERE WILL BE 3 OPERATING LAYOUTS

OVER 100 TABLES

Need Info? Contact Fred Coleman @ 828-699-0983 or email: fred_coleman@bellsouth.net

WNC Model Railroaders Inc., a nonprofit organization

2010 TRAIN SHOW RAFFLE

Three Prizes!

Original Water Color
by Ann Vasilik

Date: 3/6/2010

Price per ticket
\$1.00 or
6 for \$5.00



Machinist Tool Box



Also,
an N scale layout that is
3' x 5'

Introducing the best deal in model railroading.

Join the NMRA for 6 months for just \$9.95!

- Have easy access to one of the world's largest railroad libraries...which includes over 100,000 prototype photos, 6,000 books, and over 50,000 modeling, prototype and historical society magazines
- Experience the fellowship and fun of getting modeling help and discussing the hobby with other members in your area
- Receive reduced rates on special insurance for your layout or collection
- Get admission to local model railroad meetings and events
- Receive 6 monthly issues of *Scale Rails* magazine
- Have access to standards information and data sheets
- Be a part of programs like "Modeling With The Masters," Pike Registry, Estate Counseling, contests, clinics, the Achievement Program and more!

Visit www.nmra.org to see what you're missing!

Sign me up!

Fill out this form and include your payment.
U.S.: Send \$9.95 (US) to NMRA/Rail Pass Membership,
4121 Crosswood Road, Chattanooga, TN 37411-2119.
Canada: Send \$9.95 (CAD) to NMRA-Canadian Rail Pass
Membership, 48 Schroeder Cres., Guelph, ON N1E 7S4,
Canada.

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Phone (____) _____

Email _____

Check Credit card

Credit Card # _____

Credit Card Exp. _____

Signature _____

Also
available in
Canada!



So much bang.
So few bucks.

Rail Pass offers a lot more members and those who have not been NMRA members for two years or more. Individuals can join as Rail Pass users only since membership renewal will be at the regular membership rate. Rail Pass members can attend conventions, will participate in contests that cannot vote or hold office and will not receive a New Member Pin.