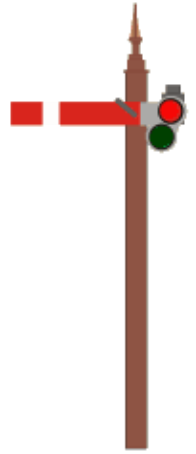


# The Semaphore



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
WNC MODEL RAILROADERS, INC.

A 100% NMRA CLUB



On the web at [www.wncmrr.org](http://www.wncmrr.org) & Facebook

## April 2013

### VOLUME 42 NUMBER 8

Our next meeting is on April 7<sup>th</sup> 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.



**BEN BARTLETT MMR STAYED BUSY TRAINING NEW ENGINEERS AT THE NHRS SWITCHING LAYOUT AT OUR TRAIN SHOW. FOR MORE PICTURES OF OUR SHOW SEE [PAGE 4](#).**



## NEWS FOR OUR MEMBERS

### OUR NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be starting at 7 PM on Thursday April 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Clinic: Chasing #630, Southern RR Loops, Upgrading Cars: Weights, Kadees & Wheels.**

Synopsis: Gordon will present a trifecta of short clinics: Chasing #630: In the fall of 2010, the TVRRM ran a series of trips with the former SRR steam engine #630 from Chattanooga to Summerville, GA. a short slide show of chasing #630 and tips. Southern RR Loops: Photos from tour of the former Southern Ry. loops guided by retired NS engineer in the fall of 2008 and informal visits then and spring 2009, emphasis potential photo ops and track access on loops. Our guide did an astounding amount of trespassing when he led us around. Upgrading cars: Basic upgrades to "blue box" cars; optimizing weight, and adding Kadee couplers and painted metal wheelsets.

Come to have fun, bring a model you are working on or finished. *See you there!*

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## REPORT ON THE LAST MEETING

Superintendent **Dave Anderson** called the meeting to order at 7:00 on Thursday, March 7, 2013

Before starting the regular membership meeting, the Superintendent called a brief Board meeting to consider several minor changes to our bylaws to facilities our 501c3 application. It was approved by the board and sent to the membership for final vote.

At the meeting of the membership, the action of the Board was affirmed.

Our 501c3 application needed the changes which identify what a Superintendent, and other positions are for a non railroader. Our Board was lacking the required seven members and **Charles Krugg** was added to the Board of Directors, after he acquiesced to the proposition.

Train show report:

**Fred Coleman** reported that we had a successful train show with estimated 2628 attending (since we haven't figured out a way to accurately count kids), the canteen and Company Store were productive ventures.

We rented 209 tables to vendors at the show. These tables, plus the space taken by the ten operating train layouts well filled the building. We could move to a larger facility, but we decided that we should continue at the present venue for the club volunteers and our vendors which should remain profitable for all involved. **Fred** reported that many vendors have already signed up for next year.

We had a surfeit of door prizes thanks to our vendors. This effort seemed to work well for all involved. Thanks go to our vendors who provided the goods, and Tom for his announcing of the prizes.

We did not have any raffle activities at this show. We briefly discussed the value this adds and may try for some raffle prizes next year. Provide your choices by the June meeting for consideration.

We had good participation from some members, but we could have benefitted from more of our members helping during the event. (For pictures of the Train Show are on pages [4](#) and [5](#).) Please email Dave your pictures from the show for inclusion on the website.

*(Continued on page 3)*



In other matters:

**Gordon Fewster** offered some comments about upgrading locomotives. He discussed how he was upgrading a pair of locomotive railings and other details, along with better motors and of course the option of DCC and sound. **Dave** presented a short video about a [HO scale magna lock brake hose](#) from Pacific Western Rail Systems in Canada.

The next outing of the LOST RR is April 6 at Hickory, NC. We will need several helpers to set up (on April 5<sup>th</sup>) and run trains (on April 6<sup>th</sup>).

We recognized prospective member **Kevin Thomas**, a recently retired Marine, who has an interested in continuing his HO scale railroad hobby. Welcome **Kevin**.

The *Alexander chapter of the NRHS* will be having a train show on April 6<sup>th</sup> in Hickory. Our LOST RR will be there.

The *NMRA's* annual convention and train show will be in Atlanta in July 14 to 20.

*TVRM & Norfolk Southern* is running several excursions this summer. See article below for more information.

**Our 24th annual train show will be on February 28 and March 1, 2014, mark your calendars.**

**Our next meeting** will be on Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

Computer problems prevented our presentation going as planned, and some general modeling issues were discussed during the interlude prior to giving up on the computer. It will be presented in the future.

**Health & Welfare:** **Troy Carroll** lost his wife after her battle with cancer. Our condolences to **Troy** and his family.

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## 21ST CENTURY STEAM EXCURSION TRIPS PLANNED FOR 2013



The *Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum* (TVRM) and the *Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society* (FWRHS), in partnership with Norfolk Southern Corporation, will host 21st Century Steam excursion trips in Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Pennsylvania in the Spring of 2013. Schedules, prices, and ticketing information are available at [www.tvrail.com](http://www.tvrail.com) for TVRM-hosted trips and [fortwaynerailroad.org](http://fortwaynerailroad.org) for FWRHS-sponsored trips.

The schedule is as follows:

- **April 13: Spencer, N.C., to Barber, N.C.** Host: TVRM. Steam locomotive SOU 630. Combination public and NS employee appreciation trip.
- **April 20 and 21: Asheville, N.C., to Old Fort, N.C.** Host: TVRM. Steam locomotive SOU 630. April 20 is combination public and NS employee appreciation trip.
- **May 12: Rocky River, Ohio, to Bellevue, Ohio.** Host: FWRHS. Steam locomotive NKP 765.
- **May 25, 26 and 27: Lewistown, Pa., to Horseshoe Curve, Pa.** Host: FWRHS. Steam locomotive NKP 765.

21st Century Steam is a partnership between Norfolk Southern and TVRM to operate steam-powered excursions throughout the territory Norfolk Southern serves. More information is available on the 21st Century Steam [website](#).



# TRAIN SHOW PICTURES

Ben Bartlett MMR helping a young engineer.



Tom McPherson our esteemed Announcer



Jim Fuqua at the admissions table



Ken Vasilik and Ken Granzin showing the Eliada Hobos layout.



# TRAIN SHOW PICTURES (CONT.)



Ty Brown's G Scale Module layout



People enjoying our LOST RR



Looking at the enormous Z-scale layout



Piedmont Garden G Scale modules



Patrick selling his trees next to Joe Grubba from Factory Direct Trains



Some one admiring Thomas and other trains in the layout area.



# CLUB CALENDAR

This is listing of know activities for our club members in the near future:

March 27th                   **Eliada Hobos**  
*Downstairs in the Barn*  
 2:30 –3:15 PM  
 3:30—4:15 PM  
 4:30—5:15 PM  
 7:00—7:45 PM

April 3rd                   **Eliada Hobos**  
*Downstairs in the Barn*  
 2:30 –3:15 PM  
 3:30—4:15 PM  
 4:30—5:15 PM  
 7:00—7:45 PM

April 4th    7:00 PM       **Club Meeting**  
*Eliada Admin Building*

April 5th    Noon           **LOST RR**  
*Pack up & Set up for Hickory show*

April 6th    9:00 AM—4:00PM   **LOST RR**  
**11th Annual NC Railroad Expo,**  
*Hickory, NC*

April 10th               **Eliada Hobos**  
*Downstairs in the Barn*  
 2:30 –3:15 PM  
 3:30—4:15 PM  
 4:30—5:15 PM  
 7:00—7:45 PM

April 17th               **Eliada Hobos**  
*Downstairs in the Barn*  
 2:30 –3:15 PM  
 3:30—4:15 PM  
 4:30—5:15 PM  
 7:00—7:45 PM

April 24th               **Eliada Hobos**  
*Downstairs in the Barn*  
 2:30 –3:15 PM  
 3:30—4:15 PM  
 4:30—5:15 PM  
 7:00—7:45 PM

April 27       **Land O'Sky Division** meeting  
 9:30 AM at the library in Fletcher

May 1st                   **Eliada Hobos**  
*Downstairs in the Barn*  
 2:30 –3:15 PM  
 3:30—4:15 PM  
 4:30—5:15 PM  
 7:00—7:45 PM

May 2nd    7:00 PM       **Club Meeting**  
*Eliada Admin Building*

May 8th                   **Eliada Hobos**  
*Downstairs in the Barn*  
 2:30 –3:15 PM  
 3:30—4:15 PM  
 4:30—5:15 PM  
 7:00—7:45 PM

May 15th               **Eliada Hobos**  
*Downstairs in the Barn*  
 2:30 –3:15 PM  
 3:30—4:15 PM  
 4:30—5:15 PM  
 7:00—7:45 PM

May 22nd               **Eliada Hobos**  
*Downstairs in the Barn*  
 2:30 –3:15 PM  
 3:30—4:15 PM  
 4:30—5:15 PM  
 7:00—7:45 PM

May 29th               **Eliada Hobos**  
*Downstairs in the Barn*  
 2:30 –3:15 PM  
 3:30—4:15 PM  
 4:30—5:15 PM  
 7:00—7:45 PM

June 6th    7:00 PM       **Club Meeting**  
*Eliada Admin Building*

We have things for you to do, expand the hobby and your talents! Come out to see what your fellow club members are doing.



## EVENTS FOR MODELERS:

### 11TH ANNUAL NC RAILROAD EXPO

April 6th

The Alexander Chapter-NRHS will host the 11th Annual NC Railroad Expo at the Hickory NC Metro & Convention Center. Located in Hickory, directly off I-40 at Exit 125 (Lenoir-Rhyne Boulevard).

Admission: \$5. Children under 12 free with adult. Free parking. See there [website](#) for details



SOUTHEASTERN REGION

### SMOKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION MODEL RAILROAD GATHERING

9 am – 4 pm Saturday April 6th

Baneberry Community Center, 521 Harrison Ferry Road,  
Baneberry, TN



**Admission:** Adults \$3.00 Kids under 12 free Free parking

**Clinics:** 10 – 11 am Brooke Gunning..Laser kit making  
 11 – 12 noon Joe Holloway ---the Pigeon Forge Railroad  
 1 – 2 pm Dave Houseman & Ned Burgess---Using NCE Mini-panels  
 2 – 3 pm Kevin Kizer---Grade Crossing Signals

Sales Tables available, operating layouts and box lunch available

Contact **Ken O'Brien** if going (about 80 W of Asheville)

### CASS RAILFAN WEEKEND 2013

May 16 – 19, 2013

Four Great Days of Mountain Railroading in Cass, West Virginia  
Return of the Freight Train, Multiple Locomotives Under Steam, Great Run by Locations. See Titans of Mountains, Geared Steam Photo Spectacular, *Celebrating 50 Years of the Cass Scenic Railroad!*



PEACHTREE EXPRESS  
NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION  
nmra2013.org

### 2013 NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION

July 14 - July 20

Peachtree Express 2013, 78th Annual NMRA National Convention, Atlanta, Ga. Check out [the convention's website](#) for details.