

The Semaphore, The Official Publication of Land-O-Sky, Division 15, Southeastern Region, NMRA

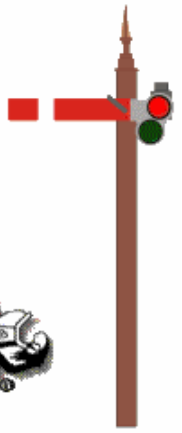


# The Semaphore

LAND-O-SKY  
DIVISION 15, SOUTHEASTERN REGION  
NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

AND  
WNC MODEL RAILROADERS, INC.

JOHN WILLIAMS, SUPERINTENDENT  
ROBERT BELL, ASST. SUPERINTENDENT  
KEN GRAZIN, COMPANY CLERK      JIM FIQUA, PAYMASTER



## June 2009

### VOLUME 38 NUMBER 10

Our next meeting is April 2nd at 7:00 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.



Two Norfolk Southern F units with a business train at Abingdon, VA earlier in June 2009.



## NEWS FOR OUR MEMBERS

### OUR NEXT MEETING

Our normal business meeting which will start at **7 PM** on **Thursday June 4th**.

**Clinic:** "Logging Railroad Details" by: Joe Norris.

**Summary:** Joe suggests ways to make details on your model logging railroad more unique.

### NEWS FROM THE BARN

**Operating sessions on LOST RR:** Are suspended due to remodeling of the Barn for changing of the Eliada Home program.

**Module Showing:** The division will take the LOST RR (HO modules) to Charlotte for their 27 June show. Your help is needed on for loading , setting up; for running trains, and packing the modules and unloading at the barn. Please contact **Wally Brown** at 683 – 1976 if you can help.

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### LAYOUT FOR SALE

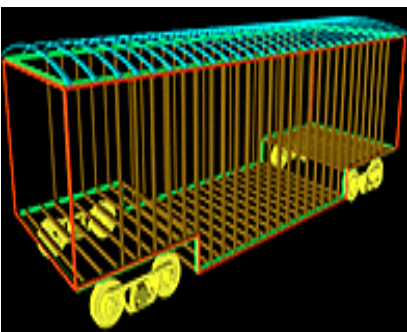
Jim Stefen has contacted us with the following message: I have a very large layout of the Durango Silverton HO model RR. We are selling our house and I need to sell the complete set. I have several trains, lots of cars & engines, houses, hand built, houses, cars, people, lots of track, many extras, roundhouse, you need to see it. This would be a great project if several people got together on it. I never did finish the layout but it's pretty much on it's way to completion. It comes apart in 3/4 sections. It's been a labor of love but can be no more. I will e-mail pictures. I live close to Maggie Valley at exit 15 (Fines Creek area). Please call me at 828-627-9676

***So anyone wanting to jump start their layout building, please call Jim Stefen, or contact the webmaster for his email.***

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### NOW YOU CAN HAVE YOUR OWN (FULL SIZED) CABOOSE

Perhaps you might like to own a real caboose for a club house, hobby house, or even a guest house but have been concerned about the cost. We may have an answer. We custom design and build full size do-it your-self framing kits, of your-design cabooses. We can build these kits up to 40 feet exterior size, to be assembled for as little as \$4000.



Our product includes the basic frame, constructed of lumber and steel, and since we only ship the un-assembled frame, allowing you to purchase standard sized lumber locally, we are able to hold shipping costs to a minimum. And, the use of innovative materials and design holds the cost down further. Assembly is easy, requiring 2 people with ordinary tools and no special skills to assemble the frame in about two days.

We strive to blend authenticity with the needs of our customers and while we build a caboose up to 40 feet by 12 feet or more. Because of our design flexibility and the unpredictable needs of our customers, we prefer to have our customers





purchase their own windows and doors, placing them where ever they want, as many as they want, and in their choice of sizes and styles. We invite you to visit our site at

[WWW.DOGPATCHANDWESTERNRR.COM](http://WWW.DOGPATCHANDWESTERNRR.COM) or call 951-302-3084 to discuss your requirements.

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## MINUTES OF THE DIVISION MEETING, THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2009

Ken Granzin, Company Clerk

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. **John Williams** introduced two visitors. He asked that those present observe a moment of silence in memory of our recently departed member, **David Purcell**.

**Jim Fuqua** gave the Treasurer's report, and **Jack Mershon** reported on the meeting of the Finance Committee. It appears the club will need to raise dues, but there is nothing definite on the new amount at this time. The funds in our accounts are held at the current level to ensure we have money "up front" for our annual train show. A discussion followed.

**Fred Coleman** reported on members' health issues. **John** spoke of our need to plan for exiting the barn as the space is needed for other uses by the school. We must leave within 90 days, and we may have to leave by 1 July. There are possible options for locating on the Eliada grounds. We'll know more by the end of May. **Penn Bullock** provided additional information on the upcoming move.

**Wally Brown** spoke of the schedule for operating sessions and the fun runs now held before the monthly meetings. Members are encouraged to come to fun runs and operate locomotives with either analog or digital controls. Wally would like to hold class sessions on the RailOp computer program. He asked for e-mails expressing interest in participating in these classes involving the program he uses for creating operating schedules.



**Ben Bartlett** reported on the achievement program and spoke of its value. **Joe Norris** received NMRA Awards for Scenery and Engineer, electrical. Ben asked that anyone who holds a Golden Spike or other AP certificate should send him an e-mail stating its origin and the qualifications that were met.

**John** reminded members of the SER convention to be held 12-14 June in Pensacola. The fee is still \$75. The National NMRA convention will be held 5-11 July in Hartford. A 6-month "Railpass" membership is available from the NMRA for \$9.95. It includes monthly issues of *Scale Rails*.

**Ben** reported on accomplishments at the Apple Valley Club. They involve lighting for buildings on the newer layout and what to do with the old Asheville section. The club has a new 7/8 scale steam locomotive.

**John** reported on progress on the Lake Junaluska layout. Some of **Jack's** models will be displayed there.

**Rob Bell** spoke about the Waynesville Cub Scouts' module-making activities. They have finished eight modules. **Bill Siebert** and **Jack Mershon** received certificates for their contributions toward this achievement.

Webmaster **Dave Anderson** reminded members to ensure he has their current e-mail address so they can receive the *Semaphore* in timely fashion via the internet.



The annual picnic will be held at a date in July yet to be established. The date will be promulgated at the June meeting.

**John** spoke of the field trip to the NC Transportation Museum proposed for May. He suggested dates for the trip. He provided a sign-up sheet for those interested in participating. Members can contact **John** via e-mail about participation.

After the break **Frank Pearsall** gave a comprehensive rundown on the many magazines published to provide information and entertainment for scale-model railroaders. He presented information on their content, price, and frequency of publication, as well as how to contact the publisher via USPS and e-mail. He even cited magazines that are now defunct. **Frank** provided actual copies as examples to be perused after the meeting.



## NC TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM FAMILY RAIL DAYS

### Passenger Train Rides

Enjoy views of the N.C. Transportation Museum's 57 acre property on our recently improved train ride. New track work has opened a new route for the train, showing more of the town of Spencer and providing a better view of the breadth of the former Spencer Shops Train Repair facility.



### Caboose Train Rides

Enjoy a ride around the N.C. Transportation Museum on our colorful caboose train. See the sites from the gondola. This provides a great opportunity for pictures of the museum and pictures of you!



### Motor Car Rides

adults alike, bringing you closer to the railroad tracks for a unique ride!

These rides, starting from the Bob Julian Roundhouse, can be enjoyed by kids and







## Model Train Expo in the Bob Julian Roundhouse

The N.C. Transportation Museum will be happy to again welcome our model railroaders. S-gauge to N-gauge model trains layouts will be on display with trains running throughout the event.

Model train pieces, railroad collectibles and much more will be on sale.

## Parade of Power

Just outside the Bob Julian Roundhouse, the Parade of Power is a chance to see each locomotive on one of the few operating museum turntables left in the country. It is a great chance to hear to roar of the engines, smell the fumes and take pictures of the experience.



## Turntable Rides

Turntable rides will be offered throughout the Rail Days festival. Take a spin and get a closer look at how the Spencer Shops operated during the good ol' days.

## Food & Annual Chili Cook Off

Numerous food vendors will be on site, so you will never go hungry while checking out classic railroad equipment and the other sights.

The Lexington, NC based Pepper Pods will coordinate this 7th annual event. In accordance with Chili Appreciation Society International rules, the Chili Cook-Off will allow visitors to sample and judge the best tasting recipe. Taster's Kits will be available for \$3 person. Several awards, including People's Choice, will be presented. For entry information, call Vickie Peacock at 704-636-2889 ext. 232.

## Norfolk Southern Activities & Norfolk Southern Locomotive Displays

Norfolk Southern locomotives and rail cars will be seen throughout the N.C. Transportation Museum property during Rail Days. While classic railroading equipment will be displayed through Rail Days, this will allow visitors to see the latest in railroading technology.

## Linwood Yard 30th Anniversary

This photo exhibit will explore the 30 years since Norfolk Southern left Spencer Shops and created Linwood Yard, still in operation today. The display will feature aerial shots and pictures of the most powerful rail equipment operating today.

## Night Photo Session, Saturday Night (time to be determined)



## MANASSAS RAILWAY FESTIVAL

The annual one-day outdoor **Manassas Railway Festival** will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2009 rain or shine with no makeup day in case of inclement weather. This is located along the old Southern Railway mainline in historic *Manassas, Virginia*. Lots of outdoor activities and plenty of food, vendors and history are just footsteps away be it at the restored station which houses historic Manassas or the Manassas Museum which is just across the lawn.



## RAILS TO SAILS

### NMRA'S SOUTHEASTERN REGION CONVENTION FOR 2009 HOSTED BY THE GULF DIVISION PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, JUNE 12-14, 2009

For more information visit the [convention website](http://www.nmra.org/convention)

**Clear the Clutter!**  
Have fun  
Improve your skills

The NMRA National Contest has an expanded menu of events.

People's Choice Awards  
Modeler's Showcase  
Meet the Entrants  
Kit Built Contest

Visit [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) to learn more about this new celebration of models, photos, and crafts!

Artwork by Michael Tylick, Charlton Hill Productions



**NO MORE EXCUSES!** The NMRA's National Contest has expanded into a

**Celebration of Models, Photos & Crafts.**

with a greater choice of events!

- Kit Built Contest
- An afternoon of "Meet the Entrants"
- People's Choice Award inspiration
- Model Showcase - non-judged show & tell

Plus, all the normal contest events.

It's fun and a great chance to improve your skills. If not now, when?

Visit the National Model Railroad Assn.'s website/contest page for details!  
<http://www.nmra.org>



**VISIT NMRA'S  
[CONTEST WEBSITE](http://www.nmra.org)  
TO SEE MORE DETAILS  
ON  
THE CELEBRATION OF  
MODELS, PHOTOS, AND  
CRAFTS**