

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
April 10, 2012**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Marietta, GA by Charlie Crawford, Superintendent.

Board Members Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet* (11): Charlie Crawford, Rick Coble, I.D. Jackson, Scott Chatfield, Bob McIntyre, Gary Jarabek, Bill Zawacki, Howard Goodwin, Peter Youngblood, Joe Sullivan, Paul Rankin

Absent (3): David Gelmini, Mike Deaton, Walt Liles

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet* (11): Mary Jackson, Del Kittendorf, Bob Wood, Sally Bando, James Bando, Fred Coleman, Joe Gelmini, Greg Williams, Perry Lamb, Scott Povlot, Stephen Leydon

**Officer and Director Reports**

***Administration—Rick Coble***

Rick still has the ballots from the 2011 election. He will ask for board permission to destroy the ballots. Peter Youngblood made a motion that Rick Coble destroy the 2011 election ballots. Seconded by Howard Goodwin. Motion carried. Rick will have the ballots shredded.

Howard Goodwin made a motion to approve the minutes to the March 2012 Board of Directors meeting. Seconded by I.D. Jackson. Motion carried.

***Finance—I.D. Jackson***

Treasurer Jackson distributed the March monthly report prior to the meeting via e-mail. Howard Goodwin made a motion to approve the March financial report. Seconded by Peter Youngblood. Approved.

Jackson also distributed an income/expense summary for the first quarter of 2012.

***Operations—Howard Goodwin***

In the last month, some interesting developments have taken place. I will be making a motion to hold a special auction on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May of an estate collection that features all locomotives, diesel and steam, HO and N. I have been asked to put this together for the owner. I have contacted Doug Alexander who did our last auction flyer to develop one for this auction. I have obtained the church location for the auction to start at 2 pm and have the wheels in motion. In short, the Division, if it agrees to do the auction, will receive the standard 15% commission for all sales and get the \$5.00 for the door from all paid participants. Flyers will be distributed to all the major hobby shops and notice will be placed on the Division web site to stimulate interest. A listing of all available locomotives will be distributed via the web site so folks will know ahead of time what is being offered. All locomotives are brand new in the box. Notice will also go out on the

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***Operations - continued***

hobby shop web site as well. The only appreciable expense to the Division would be the commitment to concessions. Chuck and Mary Ann Hoesch have agreed to run concessions should the Division decide to go forward.

On other fronts, the operations program is nearly complete for the year. Once done work will proceed on the 2013 program which will be interesting. Walt Liles has agreed to take on the Piedmont Division Modular Operating Group (PDMOG) program and continue building that into an activity we can use for shows and other projects.

The estate collection I have been dealing with also features some railroad videos which would be available for a lump sum if the Division is interested. I have gotten thumbs up from David Gelmini. Many of the VHS tapes are ones we don't have. Any duplicates could be offered to the members for reasonable prices to help defray part of the cost of the collection.

***Personnel/Membership - Paul Rankin***

At our March meeting, we had 92 attendees, of whom 2 were visitors. We signed up 4 new members at the Train Show, and talked to LOTS of people about joining! I'll be passing around a sign-in sheet again in Marietta next Tuesday, and will publish an interim report on the results of the first 2 complete alternations of meeting venue.

Some individuals who signed up at the Model Train Show completed the old membership application, which included the old rate. Paul will destroy old forms and ensure that current forms are used in the membership booth.

**Committee Reports**

***Peachtree Express— Bob McIntyre***

The advertising program has been approved. The convention car design was approved at the last meeting. Alan Mole will be negotiating with Atlas on the quantity of each scale that will be produced. Advertising in the Timetable is up in the air. We know that we will be responsible for local advertisers. The issue is with the national sponsors. We were told that a person from the NMRA magazine was making the contacts. However, I have been unable to make contact with that person to confirm. Peter Youngblood and Norm Lundin will be making contact with potential major manufacturers to be sponsors. Clinics are on schedule. The tours, prototype, Sidetracks, and model railroad are on schedule. We are working to coordinate the food needs. SIG activities are being coordinated by Milt Burge. The layouts needed for the OPSIG are scheduled. The needs for the LDSIG are currently being assessed. Sally Bando will be used for apparel and other convention items. Our next meeting is scheduled on April 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM at the First Presbyterian Church in Marietta.

NMRA convention staff will be town April 13-14 to review convention plans and status of aspects of the convention. Peachtree Express committee staff will discuss those items with the visitors.

***Member Aid – Bob McIntyre***

No questions

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***Piedmont Pilgrimage – Bob McIntyre***

No Activity

***Achievement Program – Bob McIntyre***

The Chief Dispatcher application for Bill Raymond has been submitted and approved. Waiting for the certificate. At the April meeting I will be handing out the contest award certificates. I will also be handing out the Merit Award Certificates. Paul Voelker will be handing out the photo contest awards. Due to the low participation in the theme category I am planning on having an outhouse competition for the October Model Contest. I might introduce this during the April meeting.

***Timetable - Doug Alexander***

No report. The BOD discussed the timeliness of the Timetable. Charlie Crawford will follow up.

***Website - Scott Povlot***

The division website had 6,183 page requests in March 2012.

Scott posted the current schedule on the website. He did not receive the schedule details until the last minute.

***Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel - Gary Jarabek***

Advertising:

Monthly Meetings

NMRA submitted through July 2012 Issue

Railroad Model Craftsman submitted through July 2012 Issue.

Trains.com submitted through July 2012

The April and June meeting notices reflect the Marietta location.

Company Store:

There are only med and XL of old style short sleeve polo shirts left to sell. These will be sold at \$28.00.

Putty polo shirts only 2XL remain at the price of \$33.00.

Blue polo shirts are in stock. Complete size range (med to 3XL).

Med to 2XL available in long sleeve denim shirts. .

Caps are also in stock.

Mugs will be distributed to new NMRA members.

Aprons

Some of the aprons that have been ordered in the past have not been picked up. I will keep a few in stock for future requests.

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***Model Train Show (2012) –Joe Gelmini***

The show was successful on all counts: Attendance, paid adult gate, and nice reports from vendors.

The winner of the raffle layout is interested in making a donation to the NMRA.

***Good and Welfare –Joe Gelmini***

No activity

***Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth) - John Stevens***

We have 32 scouts that have paid for registration for the April 21 program at the Southeastern Railway Museum. I will be firming up the Counselor assignments this week. Please come visit us if you haven't seen the program before. The program starts at 9:30.

***Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Kennesaw) - Bill Ello***

Nothing new to report -- awaiting requested information from various sources.

***Audio-Visual Production & Promotion Committee-Peter Youngblood***

A productive past month for the Division's A/V Committee. Regarding PE 2013 NMRA National Convention A/V equipment requirements, several meetings were held with A/V equipment providers at both the Waverly Renaissance Hotel and Cobb Galleria Centre. In addition to A/V Committee members, several PE 2013 Convention Committee members, including PE 2013 Convention Committee Chair Bob McIntyre, were present at one or more meetings. Several outside equipment rental/purchase options were also considered prior to making the A/V Committee's recommendations to the PE 2013 Convention Committee at the March 28th meeting. The recommendations entailed using a combination of Piedmont Division equipment in conjunction with in-house equipment rented, set up and maintained by both Convention facilities. Budgets were negotiated with each and submitted to Treasurer Chris White as line item entries. These and the A/V Committee's recommendations were accepted and approved.

On Tuesday, April 3rd, the A/V Committee along with Superintendent Charlie Crawford met Melissa and Ed, the video and audio technicians at the First Presbyterian Church in Marietta to resolve A/V technical problems that occurred at the first Piedmont Division meeting there in February. It was determined we could use the church's projectors, but only our PD audio equipment. It was also recommended other extraneous equipment not be used to prevent potential interference issues. Thanks to Superintendent Charlie Crawford and Director of Operations Howard Goodwin for requesting said meeting and to Perry Lamb as facilitator.

Superintendent Charlie Crawford has accepted Bob Wood's resignation from the A/V Committee for personal reasons and no longer wishes to operate the A/V equipment at Piedmont Division meetings.

***Name Badges - James Bando***

James made two badges since the last meeting.

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***Division Book Library - Stephen Leydon***

Due to having surgery on my collar bone (4" plate and 9 screws) the week after the meeting I have not been able to move forward on completing the documentation of the large donation last year. Several books were returned at the last meeting but none were loaned out.

I do plan on attending the Marietta meeting with a few books since I am not allowed to lift anything for at least the next 3 weeks.

***Division Video Library - David Gelmini***

I am continuing to work on and update the inventory list and hope to get it to ID by May 1.

One new piece of Video Library business I would like to address is a purchase of a private video collection. Howard Goodwin said that the collection can be purchased for \$200-\$250.

Howard Goodwin made a motion that the Division purchases the video collection for up to \$250.00. Seconded by Joe Gelmini. Motion passed.

I will not be at the April meetings do to an out of town training class.

***Volunteer Coordinator - Walt Liles***

No report.

**Old Business**

***Operations Jamboree (Howard Goodwin)***

Howard Goodwin is in the process of planning Operations Jamboree for 2012. Milt Burge will assist with this program. Dates are to be determined.

***Trains, Trains, and More Trains (Del Kittendorf)***

Del Kittendorf has information concerning *Trains, Trains, and More Trains*, a National Park Service Junior Ranger program to be held at Kennesaw Mountain Park on April 28<sup>th</sup>. All spaces have already been reserved for participation in this year's event.

***A/P Class - Peter Youngblood***

The next AP class will be held August 25, 2012 at HobbyTown USA in Kennesaw. An agenda will be established well prior to the event.

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**New Business**

***Special Auction (Howard Goodwin)***

Howard proposes that the Division hold a special auction of the items on behalf of Carole Lubbers. Her husband, now incapacitated, worked at a hobby shop, not for money but for trains. All commissions would go to the Division and the Division would get the \$5.00 from the door.

Howard Goodwin made a motion that the Piedmont Division holds a special auction on behalf of Carole Lubbers. Seconded by Peter Youngblood. Approved.

***Parents Palooza (Joe Gelmini)***

Joe was contacted about participating in ParentsPalooza, a family event and parenting expo, to be held November 10-11 at the Cobb Galleria Centre. The event will conflict with the Piedmont Pilgrimage and November train show at the North Atlanta Trade Center. There is also a question of costs and responsibilities to participate in the show. This item will be discussed in May.

***Storage Unit - I.D. Jackson***

Rental on the storage unit near the Elk's Lodge in Tucker increased on April 1. After a discussion concerning moving the Kid's Layout to the storage building at the SERM and approaching deadline to vacate the unit, it was decided to pay May rent. Charlie Crawford will review space at the SERM to see if the Kid's layout may be stored in the storage building.

***Dual Meeting Locations - Charlie Crawford***

Paul Rankin will report on attendance during the trial dual location next month. Charlie Crawford proposes a special Board of Director's meeting after the June meeting to decide future meeting location plans.

If required, Gary Jarabek will change meeting announcements on our website and trains.com as well as in NMRA magazine, so a decision must be made as quickly as possible.

***SER Convention***

The Piedmont Division will supply 3 projectors for use in Gatlinburg.

The Meeting Adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rick Coble, Director of Administration