

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
June 12, 2012**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

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

Board Members Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet* (13): Rick Coble, Charlie Crawford, Walt Liles, Bill Zawacki, I.D. Jackson, Paul Rankin, Gary Jarabek, Joe Sullivan, David Gelmini, Mike Deaton, Peter Youngblood, Howard Goodwin, Scott Chatfield

Absent (1): Bob McIntyre

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet* (7): Joe Gelmini, Tyler Gelmini, Perry Lamb, Thomas Roskelly, Joe Nichols, Jr., Steve Funsten, John Travis

**Officer and Director Reports**

***Administration—Rick Coble***

No new information to report.

Charlie Crawford made a motion to accept the May minutes. Seconded by Paul Rankin. Motion passed.

***Finance—I.D. Jackson***

Treasurer Jackson distributed a report prior to the meeting and a more detailed report at the meeting.

Gary Jarabek asked that the more detailed report format be distributed each month. Jackson agreed.

The current finance account is looking good.

The meeting members discussed the following additional revenue and expense items:

Auction credit card transaction expenses software. Bill Zawacki will modify the auction software.

Silent auction at Grand Rapids. Joe Gelmini will discount non-credit card purchases.

After additional discussion of finance related items, Joe Sullivan made a motion to approve the financial report. Seconded by Bill Zawacki. Motion passed.

***Operations—Howard Goodwin***

Once again it's that time to report on the happenings of the Director of Operations. As reported previously, Operations are complete for the rest of this year and the 2013 planning is underway.

We are a bit closer to the Operations Experience where local layouts will be hosting operating sessions. Once again this is a member only exclusive so if you are interested in learning how to

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
June 12, 2012**

***Operations - (cont.)***

do operations or just want to come and operate for those of you who are experienced, please let me or Milt Burge know.

The modular operating group is being headed up by Walt Liles, so please contact him for any and all information on the modular operating group. This is NOT to be confused with other modular groups out there since this one is geared especially toward operations and is sponsored by the Division as a function of the Operations department.

This year's Pilgrimage is shaping up to be a great one with several new and some older layouts on the tour. Several members of NARB will be on tour this year with two new ones from Rob Dodds (HO) and Earl Mayfield (N) and will feature the return of Al Churella's On2 layout after a several year hiatus. Many layouts from the local operating groups of the Chattahoochee Express including the new layout of Bob McIntyre will be featured as well as those from the North County Interchange, JRAG, and Southern Crescent, Intown Model Railroaders and the Wreckem group of Dan Berman. All of the Operating Groups are pitching in showing off their work.

While you will hear about this in other reports, please do keep in mind that a good many of these home layouts will need guest operators and if you want to learn about DCC and have a lot of fun running trains, consider volunteering your time to help out. It is worth some Association Volunteer points for the AP program as well. In addition, we are always on the lookout for some volunteers for the Boy Scout Merit Badge programs we hold in the Division for the Railroading Merit Badge. Contact John Stevens or Bill Ello if you are interested.

We will be discussing the continuing of the monthly meeting location and I feel that the response to the Marietta location has been very positive and well worth considering continuing the program thru the end of the year. In speaking with Mike Brestel, the NMRA president, I learned that his division has alternating meetings and have done quite well with that concept with some meeting locations several hours away from him in Cincinnati.

Another idea was put forth in having meetings on Saturdays. I spoke with another member from another Division and they do their meetings on Saturday from 10 am -2 pm. This may alleviate some of the traffic concerns about the monthly meetings in Tucker and Marietta. Meetings during the day would also work well for those members who cannot or do not drive at night. This may be a good opportunity to reach even MORE of our membership. This was just an idea that was expressed and not to be construed as an endorsement. Look at this as food for thought.

That's all for now, so until next time, may all your signals be green.

Paul Rankin made a motion to accept the Operations report. Seconded by Bill Zawacki. Motion passed.

# **PIEDMONT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT June 12, 2012**

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

Membership Chair Rankin distributed two spreadsheets prior to the meeting: The first reporting attendance during the dual meeting location period, including average mileage to the meeting and how often members attend; and the second a summary of attendance dating back to 2005.

He also reported that attendance was a little down for April and May, with fewer visitors and more regulars, and a longer drive, at the Tucker location.

Charlie Crawford made a motion to accept the Membership report. Seconded by Bill Zawacki. Motion passed.

Chairman Rankin led a discussion on dual meeting locations.

The division will meet in Tucker July and September, Marietta August. The BOD will vote on dual meeting locations at the July meeting. If the Board decides to continue rotating the meeting location, this will begin Q4 to give membership and guests advance notice.

## **Committee Reports**

### ***Member Aid - Bob McIntyre***

Two requests this month. I went to Dave Readers layout in Marietta to offer suggestions on layout improvements. L.B. Groover asked again for help on this layout. Joe Gelmini graciously volunteered to assist and help him.

### ***Achievement Program – Bob McIntyre***

We presented Bill Raymond's first certificate, Volunteer, at the Regional Convention in Gatlinburg. He has Chief Dispatcher approved and I am just waiting on the certificate from National. During the June meeting Perry Lamb will be presented with Electrical. During this meeting two Golden Spike Certificates will be presented. They are to Dan Hinel, and Joseph Surowiec. The Train N Camp is scheduled for August 25<sup>th</sup>. It will cover AP issues and individuals can bring their questions, models, etc. Also, if anyone has layout design issues it can be addressed at this time.

### ***2013 National Convention – Bob McIntyre***

The Committee is now meeting once per month. We are waiting to get a quote from Horizon Hobbies for the Convention Car. We will compare this against Atlas and make a decision. The decision needs to be made this month. We need to get the cars prior to the Convention to work on pre-sales. We have had concerns with cash flow. The NMRA wants to reimburse us as we submit receipts. We are concerned that we will have cash flow issues. I plan to ask the Piedmont Division for a \$10,000.00 loan. This will be paid back at the conclusion of the Convention along with any profit. The food events are on schedule. Just waiting on the contracts from the Trackside Grill. A lot of work is going into the SIG activities. This includes the operating layouts, layouts on tour, and banquet. The tours are moving along well and on schedule. These include the model layouts and prototype. Howard Goodwin is working hard lining up clinicians. We are somewhere near 250 reservations. We expect many more after Grand Rapids. Our advertising is in place.

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
June 12, 2012**

***Piedmont Pilgrimage – Bob McIntyre***

We currently have over 80 layouts scheduled for this year's event. This includes my SV&S! Gary Jarabek is presently scheduling the layouts. We have four advertisers signed up this year so far. This includes Trainmaster, Riverdale Station, HO Hobbies, and Blue Ox Trains.

***Timetable - Doug Alexander***

Doug will continue to investigate Timetable expenses and advertising revenue. The Q3 addition is scheduled to go out the first business day in July.

***Website - Scott Povlot***

Scott distributed a report prior to the meeting. He also noted that has started using Google Analytics to monitor website traffic. The new tool suggests that prior traffic numbers may have been inflated by including other sites hosted by the division.

He will continue to monitor reporting and try to investigate the differences if needed.

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

**Advertising:**

Monthly Meetings

NMRA submitted through September 2012 Issue  
Railroad Model Craftsman submitted through September 2012 Issue.  
Trains.com submitted through July 2012

The June meeting notices reflects the Marietta location. September notice refers to website for meeting location. Additional advertising changes after the July meeting, so a decision must be made as quickly as possible.

**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). An order has been placed to maintain complete size range.

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

Caps are also in stock.

Mugs will be distributed to new NMRA members.

Aprons

A few are in stock for future requests (denim and canvas)

***Good and Welfare –Joe Gelmini***

Sympathy card to member Tom Banks on the death of his 48-year old son, Bill. Myself and several division members attended the memorial service for Bill held on June 7.

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
June 12, 2012**

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

All expenses have been paid. The show had a profit of \$12,803.

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

John and Charlie Crawford, MMR have discussed the possibility of moving the Kid's Layout to the Duluth storage shed and that will probably occur in September.

The next program as the SERM will be held on September 22.

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

Bill Ello reported:

The Kennesaw Museum has confirmed that we have the dates of Aug 18, 2012 and Dec 8, 2012 reserved for our BSA RR MERIT BADGE CLINICS. Our original request for Aug 25 had a conflict in the Museum's calendar and was adjusted back to the 18th for our summer date.

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

The A/V Committee team transported and provided Piedmont Division A/V equipment to Gatlinburg, TN for the annual SER Convention. Projectors and laptops were set up in the various clinic rooms and the banquet room. All equipment performed flawlessly throughout the convention. Larry Burkholder, Superintendent for the host Smoky Mountain Division, expressed his appreciation and thanks to the team at the banquet. Special thanks to Norman Lundin, Greg Williams, Howard Goodwin and Robb Dodds for their efficient help, and to Charlie Crawford, MMR, Bill Zawacki, MMR and I.D. Jackson for transporting the laptops.

Piedmont Division audio equipment was also used and manned at the First Presbyterian Church in Marietta on May 19<sup>th</sup> for that afternoon's Private Auction.

***Name Badges - James Bando***

*No new badges.*

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

No new updates for Video Library. Still working on converting VHS to DVD, could take a few months. 24 DVDs are out on loan (if the logs are correct). Hope to have a complete and accurate list of DVD/VHS titles in digital format by the end of August.

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

Library Report: Due to the physical restrictions of the librarian (place by the Dr.) only a few books were taken to the last meeting. Having said that, several books were returned and a few were loaned. The library was given some additional books which will be entered into circulation. On loan books in circulation number 66.

Restrictions on lifting have been reduced so a couple crates will make the next meeting.

***Volunteer Coordinator - Walt Liles***

*Nothing new to report.*

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
June 12, 2012**

**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. Howard will report in July.

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

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. Peter Youngblood has class flyers for distribution.

***Storage Unit - Charlie Crawford***

Based on Charlie Crawford's and John Stevens' review of storage space at the museum, it was decided that the layout would be moved and placed in the storage unit September 22. Additional items must be moved. A decision is scheduled for July on continuing to rent storage space for remaining items in storage.

***Dual Meeting Locations - Charlie Crawford, MMR***

See the Membership section for detail.

**New Business**

No new items of business.

Peter Youngblood made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by many.

The Meeting Adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rick Coble, Director of Administration