

**PIEDMONT DIVISION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT
August 9, 2011**

Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. at Old Hickory House, Tucker, GA, by Howard Goodwin, Superintendent.

Board Members Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet (13)*: Scott Povlot, Charlie Crawford, Chris White, Joe Sullivan, Bill Zawacki, Gary Jarabek, David Gelmini, Peter Youngblood, Scott Chatfield, Paul Rankin, Howard Goodwin, Bob McIntyre, Rick Coble

Absent (1): Mike Deaton

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet (12)*: I.D. Jackson, Del Kittendorf, Randall Watson, Ron Gough, Walt Liles, Alan Mole, Len Polinsky, Vic Pitrowski, Joe Gelmini, Paul Voelker, Ed Laity, Bob Wood

Officer and Director Reports

Administration—Rick Coble

Nothing new to report at this time.

A motion was made by Gary Jarabek to approve the July 2011 minutes. Seconded by Peter Youngblood. Motion passed.

Finance—Chris White

Chris distributed the June Financial Report as an Excel spreadsheet as usual. He has the following comments:

- We received a "donation" from the auction of the HO sawmill models at the July monthly meeting.
- We had sales of Division shirts (GJ) offset by the purchase of additional shirts.
- We received payments from Boy Scouts attending the first Marietta Merit Badge Program, offset by a returned check from another Scout family.
- The Division purchased business cards and paid for a TriFold ad for the 2013 Convention. (Note: Application has been made to the NMRA for reimbursement of all expenses paid by the Division associated with the 2013 Convention since 2008.

I have opened a separate 2013 Convention Checking Account of the Piedmont Division. In future I will make disbursements from this account for expenses associated with the 2013 Convention. four year's will be complete.

A motion was made by Gary Jarabek to approve the July 2011 Financial Report. Seconded by Peter Youngblood. Motion passed.

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Operations—Charlie Crawford

Clinics are scheduled into the New Year. Made a substitution for November 2011, due to his foot injury Peter Youngblood will be unable to prepare his clinic on prototype modeling. Ovidiu will present one instead on rolling stock. Peter will be scheduled in the New Year.

I will be seeking open house hosts for the 1st half of 2012 at the August Meeting.

Personnel/Membership - Paul Rankin

We had 92 at the July 2011 meeting. Paul was unable to attend - Rick Coble

Committee Reports

Peachtree Express— Bob McIntyre

We have completed the Sacramento Convention and that information was reported at our last BOD meeting. We are having our next meeting in mid-August. The plan is to move to the next phase. This includes ongoing Registration. It also includes the tours and other functions.

Piedmont Pilgrimage - Bob McIntyre

All layouts are scheduled. Advertising is in full swing. Currently waiting on checks from Blue Ridge Hobbies and Legacy Station. We are unsure of Hobbytown, Cumming because they are moving.

Member Aid— Bob McIntyre

Nothing new to report.

Achievement Program-Bob McIntyre

Have received and sent to National the MMR applications for Charlie Crawford and Bill Zawacki. Peter Youngblood will be submitting his application for Chief Dispatcher (certificate #10). Received word that Bob McIntyre's scenery certificate application has been approved.

Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel - Gary Jarabek

Gary noted that Peter Youngblood, Howard Goodwin, and Gary Jarabek were contributors to NMRA Magazine, giving the Piedmont Division a lot of exposure.

Advertising:

Monthly Meetings

NMRA submitted through November 2011 Issue
Railroad Model Craftsman submitted through September 2011 Issue.
Trains.com submitted through November 2011

Auction

NMRA submitted July/August 2011
Railroad Model Craftsman submitted for August 2011

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Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel - continued

Trains.com through August

Pilgrimage

NMRA submitted for October and November

Railroad Model Craftsman submitted October and November

Trains.com through November

Model Railroad Month

Gerry Leone was putting together an article for NMRA magazine on what various divisions were doing to celebrate National Model Railroad month. Due to missed communications Howard sent an article which appeared in the August Issue of NMRA, and I submitted a separate blurb to Steve Priest, which was past the deadline, for the article, and it was also published in the August issue of NMRA, this is in the events section. So the Piedmont Pilgrimage got double coverage in the August issue of NMRA

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 in stock at the price of \$33.00, 2XL.

Blue polo shirt is in stock. Complete size range (med to 3XL).

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

Vests have been sold out.

Caps are also in stock.

Mugs will be distributed to new NMRA members.

Model Train Show (2012) –Joe Gelmini

- We remain at 58% sold/reserved for the planned 262 vendor tables.
- I received requests for train show literature/vendor applications from several new vendors while at the national train show in Sacramento.

Good and Welfare –Joe Gelmini

SER G&W chair notified regarding the following Piedmont members

- **Charlie Crawford** attained MMR status;
- **Bill Rinck** is recovering from surgery;
- **Dr. Revis Butler** in hospital with congenitive heart failure;
- **Peter Youngblood** recovering from displaced ankle;
- **John Lawhorn** recovering from surgery and subsequent pneumonia.

Sympathy card to **Fred Covalt** on the passing of his wife, Lou Ann, on July 19

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Division Library - Stephen Leydon

Piedmont Division Library Audit Summary August 2011

Books Owned:	405
Books Loaned To:	1
Total Books:	406
Uncirculated:	356
Circulating:	50
MIA:	0
Total Books:	406

The library now has a copy of Collin Garratt's book "The Ultimate Encyclopedia of Steam and Rail" via a donation last month.

As can be seen by the numbers the library continues to have 50 books in circulation.

Website-Scott Povlot

July 2011 - 15,823 page requests.
Events page updated.

Scott included a report showing web site activity since January 2008.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth) - John Stevens

- I believe all the counselors are now reregistered with the AAC. Normally, registration is good for two years.
- I held a Round Table type discussion on presenting a merit badge program at this year's National Convention in Sacramento in July. It went reasonably well. I had about 10 members in attendance. Some of them have never presented a program and others had presented a program to hundreds of scouts. I think the discussion needs to be split up into two clinics.
- In the past, I have been asked about a program for the Girl Scouts of America (GSA). The BSA has 121 merit badges including Railroading. The GSA has 117 badges but none for railroading. But, the GSA allows local councils to develop five or six badges for their council. Once the badge is developed, other councils can also use it. A council in NC has developed a badge for Railroading that looks amazingly like the BSA program. I think we could do our current program with no changes and we would fulfill the requirements for the badge. I have been in contact with the local council about presenting a program. A decision has not yet been made about this program.
- I opened registration for the September 17 program in Duluth on Tuesday afternoon. In less than 24 hours I had over 35 scouts registered. I have started a standby list. I will be contacting the counselors in the next couple of weeks about their availability.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Kennesaw) - Howard Goodwin/Bill Ello

The tentative date for the next Kennesaw session is December 17th.

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Auctions-Howard Goodwin

The next auction is scheduled for Thursday, August 25, 2011 at the First Presbyterian Church in Marietta.

Audio-Visual Production & Promotion Committee-Peter Youngblood (report submitted in advance)

Nothing new to report.

Name Badges - James Bando

- I made four name tags this month.
- I do not anticipate any purchases for the rest of 2011.
- In 2Q2012 I anticipate purchasing 100 name badge holder/lanyard sets (minimum purchase is 50 sets). The price as of 8/7/2011 is \$0.74 per set which would be an expenditure of approximately \$80.00 including shipping & handling. I probably will not need any paper inserts until 2013. This assumes that we will continue to use the same name badges.

Old Business

Hospital Layout – Tether Collection - John Travis

The project is on hold until we get additional volunteers.

Promotion of Peachtree Express at the 2011 Narrow Gauge Convention-Howard Goodwin

Howard Goodwin has confirmed attendance at the 2011 Narrow Gauge Convention, to be held September 7-10 in Hickory, NC. Howard would like to take the Peachtree Express booth to the convention.

Division Achievement Program Day (Peter Youngblood)

The Division Achievement Program date is scheduled for August 27, 2011 at HobbyTown USA in Kennesaw.

Peter Youngblood has sent an email requesting volunteers for the event.

Operations Weekend (Joe Sullivan)

Joe has received 32 responses to his operations weekend survey. Joe would like to hold operations over three weekends: September 24 and 25; October 1 and 2; and October 8 and 9. Joe is down to 6 volunteers. He will speak with Charlie Crawford and Perry Lamb.

Facilities - Howard Goodwin

The Board of Directors continued to discuss a potential move for our general meeting. Chris White and Charlie Crawford will explore alternatives and make a suggestion to the BOD for a vote in September.

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A/V Equipment Insurance (Peter Youngblood)

Peter Youngblood asked if the current Piedmont Division insurance policy cover PD owned A/V equipment. NMRA insurance is limited to injury-liability and does not cover equipment.

Charlie Crawford has contacted, but not received a quote, from an insurance carrier. He will contact the NMRA insurance carrier.

2012 NASG Convention (Howard Goodwin)

The National Association of S Gaugers is holding its 2012 convention in Chattanooga August 8th - 11th. Howard Goodwin received an email concerning participation.

Howard Goodwin is attending on behalf of the NMRA. This is a good opportunity to promote Peachtree Express as well as the NMRA. He is looking for others to assist in Chattanooga.

Atlanta Parenting Magazine (Howard Goodwin)

The 2011 Atlanta Parenting Magazine's Family Block Party is scheduled for October 8, 2011. Howard has confirmed our participation and applied for NMRA insurance for the event.

Raffle Layout (Howard Goodwin)

2012 Layout

The Chattahoochee Express Operating Groups is completing the 2012 raffle layout and is estimating completing the layout at the end of August 2011.

Division Aprons- Joe Sullivan

Joe Sullivan suggested selling Piedmont Division aprons for use in operating sessions. These would be similar to Home Depot Aprons but have Piedmont and NMRA logos.

Gary Jarabek has received pricing from a vendor of \$10 each for denim or canvas aprons with an embroidered logo. He has also received pricing from Sally Bando.

Member Privacy - Rick Coble

Rick took a look at the division website and monthly roster and sent notes and recommendations to members of the BOD and committee chairs

Rick will have additional information next month.

New Business

Clinics for the 2012 Gatlinburg Convention-Howard Goodwin

Larry Burkholder has asked Howard Goodwin to provide half a dozen clinics for the 2012 convention. Howard has arranged six clinicians, including two non-Piedmont Division individuals.

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Strategic Planning Meeting

The Division's Strategic Planning Meeting will be held September 25th. Location and time to be determined.

Auctions/Computers - Bill Zawacki

Bill would like to discuss the purchase of three new computers to use for the auctions and business meetings if needed. The computers are needed to be able to guarantee that we can support the division auctions and the silent auction at the national conventions in 2012 and 2013.

Bill has checked pricing at Best Buy, BrandsMart USA, and HH Gregg.

Scott Chatfield made a motion to approve and expenditure for the purchase of three PCs and a router connection. Seconded by Chris White. Motion passed.

Timetable Printing Costs - Howard Goodwin

Howard Goodwin's contact at Konica/Minolta, who has printed Model Train Show flyers over the years at no cost, has offered to do other print jobs, especially the Timetable and Piedmont Pilgrimage, at no cost.

Storage Space - David Gelmini

David Gelmini asked if we should increase storage space. At this time, the Kid's Layout takes up a majority of our storage space. This will be discussed next month.

The Meeting Adjourned at 6:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Coble, Director of Administration