

# PIEDMONT DIVISION TIMETABLE

VOLUME 22 NUMBER 2

Effective 12:01 AM ET Sunday April 1st 2018

# It's Show Time!



PIEDMONT DIVISION



PIEDMONT  DIVISION  
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PIEDMONT DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT JANUARY 2018



Our Division is full of opportunities for you to learn and to become involved. There are many wonderful ways for you to move forward in as we go forward into Spring. The 2018 Model Train Show just wrapped and was very successful. A Very Special Thank You to David, Heather & Tyler Gelmini for a very impressive show. They sold out all the vendor tables and the event was a real happening. I still don't have the



final numbers while writing this, but it did seem to be a very successful show. There were many families with children who were quite intrigued with model trains. Hopefully they will become future modelers. I also want to say thank you to all the many volunteers who helped over the weekend volunteering your time.

We have a meeting coming up on April 10<sup>th</sup> which is our annual Model and Photo contest. Hopefully you are preparing something to enter. Also, our very own Dr. Joe Nichols

Jr. MMR will present block detection options and more with JMRI. AMTRAK is our theme for the month for Bring and Brag.

Peter Youngblood MMR has arranged for us to have a very special clinician for the evening on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Flying in to present his clinic on his "Nickel Plate HO Layout Construction" will be noted hobbyist and author Tony Koester. This should be great and hopefully many of you will be attending. We will attempt to have a quick BOD meeting, so we can have more meet and greet time with Tony before our general meeting. This is a special event so please come just a little early for a good seat.

(continued on next page)

## PIEDMONT DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT JANUARY 2018

(continued from previous page)

Our Train N' Camp coordinator has been super busy. Perry Lamb hosted an event March 24<sup>th</sup> at HobbyTown USA in Kennesaw. This clinic examined the installation of DCC Sound decoders—something our membership has been asking for. Perry will be leading the next class on June 30<sup>th</sup> on installing and ballasting flex track. Details for this class can be found in this issue. These very informative classes require reservations in advance and seating is limited due to the hands-on nature of the training. We are very focused in providing education classes based on what the membership has requested. Watch for other classes soon.

There has been some discussion around the Division regarding some changes we have made on how we manage things. If you have questions you are welcome to contact me personally. I will be glad to explain how we are managing your organization. We have a fine group of leaders and we continue to be very responsible with the club finances.

Our membership booth had some very nice additions at The Model Train Show. Sally Bando added the branded signage to the big booth as well as photos of several of our members layouts around the area to share with visitors stopping by the booth. We Are All About Trains is our slogan and is now displayed on the booth. Mike Cumming has been busy recruiting new member as well. I would encourage everyone this year to invite a guest to at least one meeting in the next 12 months.

Get ready for the South East Region convention "Blue Ridge

Rails" at the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center in Lake Junaluska, NC on May 24<sup>th</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup>. If you have not registered jump on the train now. You are running out of time. The 2018 SER Convention is soon, and Alan Mole says it should be a great one. For complete information, go to [www.ser-nmra.org](http://www.ser-nmra.org).

The Piedmont Division is your division. So, jump in and volunteer in some capacity. If you are not sure where you may fit please contact me. Walt Liles, [wiles.crrman@gmail.com](mailto:wiles.crrman@gmail.com). I will be glad to help you find a fit in our organization.

Hope you are having fun in Model Railroading. It's a hobby and it's a wonderful way to take your mind off your real job and all the other stuff that gets cluttered in our minds at times. Try something new, even if you're not good at it, try it. You never know till you try. Experiment, that is how we learn and improve. The best results can come from that, but you don't know until try.

Keep on modeling and look forward seeing many of you at future events and meeting soon.

—Walt Liles

Superintendent Piedmont Division

Piedmont Division monthly meetings are held at:

### **Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church**

805 Mt. Vernon Highway, Atlanta, GA 30327

Division meeting are open to everyone. Come join us to see what fun Model Railroading is. See Division Calendar for details.

We hope to see you at our next meeting!



## PIEDMONT DIVISION

### COMMITTEE, PROGRAM AND ACTIVITY CHAIRS AND CONTACTS

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## OVERVIEW OF PIEDMONT DIVISION FINANCES FOR FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 2018

	January thru February 2018	Budget	Amount Over Budget
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Contributions	\$ 240.31	\$218.91	\$ 21.40
Event Fees	(\$ 60.00)		(\$ 60.00)
Sales of Product		\$33.00	(\$33.00)
Table Rental	\$ 2,665.00		\$ 2,665.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 2,845.31</b>	<b>\$251.91</b>	<b>\$ 2,593.40</b>
<b>TOTAL COST OF GOODS SOLD</b>	<b>(\$ 101.76)</b>	<b>(\$12.50)</b>	<b>(\$89.26)</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$ 2,743.55</b>	<b>\$239.41</b>	<b>\$ 2,504.14</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
Advertising & Marketing		\$500.00	(\$500.00)
Bank Charges	(\$ 4.44)		(\$ 4.44)
Facility Rental	\$2,987.50	\$350.00	\$2,637.50
Good & Welfare		\$8.33	(\$8.33)
Layout Cost	(\$ 60.92)		(\$ 60.92)
Office Supplies		\$6.66	(\$6.66)
Operating Supplies		\$88.33	(\$88.33)
Program Food & Beverages		\$40.00	(\$40.00)
Publishing	\$ 302.41		\$ 302.41
Miscellaneous		\$41.67	(\$41.67)
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 3,224.55</b>	<b>\$1,034.99</b>	<b>\$2,189.56</b>
<b>NET OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>(\$481.00)</b>	<b>(\$795.58)</b>	<b>\$314.58</b>
<b>NET OTHER REVENUE (Interest)</b>	<b>\$0.35</b>		<b>\$0.35</b>
<b>NET OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>(\$ 480.65)</b>	<b>(\$795.58)</b>	<b>\$314.93</b>

Monthly Financial Reports are presented to the Board of Directors.



## THE TRAIN SHOW

Hope you found some great bargains and missing pieces for your railroad empires at The Train Show. I snatched up some *Milwaukee Road* cabooses and coaches that I did not have, and found some nice wood-sheathed box cars for my pre-World War II collection. And of course there are always some tools that were too good to pass up.



It seemed to me there were a lot more N-scale trains than the last two years. While I think this is great, I went WAY over my budget because of that.

This issue is filled with recognitions, merit awards and certificates of achievement. Our Division is fortunate to have so many skilled crafts-people and members generously giving their time to our organization.

Tom Gordon sheds some light on illuminating our layouts. I purchased some Woodland Scenics - Just Plug™ lighting for a freight terminal I am assembling—I think the prototype took less time than I am taking.

Speaking of lighting, Alan Mole's *Mole Valley Railroad* is the featured layout in this issue. His layout room was built for his railroad, not the other way around. The result is excellent lighting that makes taking good photographs easy.

NOTE: The Piedmont Division Board has decided to discontinue mailing black-and-white printed copies of the *Timetable* to Division members who do not have an email on file. This is simply due to costs. Printing and mailing to these roughly 80 members was over \$500 per year.

—Jim Datka

## PIEDMONT DIVISION TIMETABLE VOLUME 22 NUMBER 2

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### PHOTO EDITOR

James Bando

### CONTRIBUTORS

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Walt Liles

DEADLINE FOR THE QTR 3 2018 *TIMETABLE*:

**Wednesday, June 13, 2018**

Please send submissions to

[jdatka@mindspring.com](mailto:jdatka@mindspring.com)



**5th Annual**

# Model Train Swap Meet

425 Market Place Roswell, GA 30075

**Saturday May 5th 2018**

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Buy, Sell, Trade or just come enjoy the Fun!!**

**Open to the Public - Free Admission**

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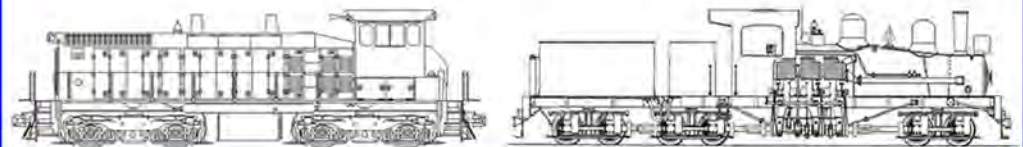
*Vendors can rent a table with two chairs for \$25.00  
add additional tables for \$10.00 each*

*or*

*Bring your own table and chairs - \$10.00*

Contact Steve to reserve tables:

404-312-6467 Email - [blueoxtrains@bellsouth.net](mailto:blueoxtrains@bellsouth.net)





SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2018

TERMINUS CHAPTER – TOY AND MODEL TRAIN SWAP MEET at VFW Post #5408, 4764 Cobb Parkway, Acworth, GA 30101

TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018

6 PM BOD; 7-9 PM Piedmont Division Mtg

### SEMIANNUAL MODEL AND PHOTO CONTEST

CLINICIAN: Dr. Joe Nichols, Jr. MMR TITLE: Block detection options and more JMRI

This clinic will review the dollars, cents and sense of installing block detection to an existing layout. We will discuss the hardware for detection that can be used for any DCC (and with adaptation DC) system with output to panel LEDs or to a full track display panel on a monitor or TV. This can be adapted to run trains over the internet from other parts of the world but I hope that we run out of time before we discuss this.

BRING & BRAG: Bring your favorite Brass Locomotives or whatever you have been working on and want to share.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018

All Day

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

CHAIRPERSON: HOWARD GOODWIN

Spring 2018 BSA Railroading Merit Badge Clinic at Southeastern Railway Museum, 3595 Buford Hwy, Duluth, GA 30096

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018

10 AM to 2 PM

LAYOUT OPEN HOUSES:

PHILIP STEAD, Denver and Rio Grande Railroad from Chama, NM to Alamosa, CO circa 1949 1460 Old Nelson Road, Ball Ground, GA 30107

ARNOLD EAVES, Tri-State Rail Holdings and Affiliated Lines, 804 Chatley Court, Woodstock, GA 30188

JOHN BOST, Southern Railroad, 837 Waterford Estates Manor, Canton, GA 30115

STEVE AUSTIN, Elkhorn Iron and Timber Railroad serving Southern Appalachia in 1947 473 Arbor Hills Road N, Talking Rock, GA 30175

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018

MODEL TRAIN EXPO at Chatsworth Depot, 500 North First Avenue Chatsworth, GA 30705

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2018

MODEL TRAIN EXHIBITION Hosted by: Pleasant Grove United Methodist and Chattanooga Modular Modelers 2701 Cleveland Hwy, Dalton, GA 30721

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2018

LOCUST GROVE DAY STREET FESTIVAL AND PARADE Parade begins on Hwy 42 at 10:00 AM; Festival at Claude Gray Park 99 Frances Ward Drive, Locust Grove, GA 30248

SATURDAY, MAY 5 2018

TRAIN SWAP AT BLUE OX TRAINS 425 Market Place, Roswell, GA 30075

TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2018

CLINICIAN: TONY KOESTER

6 PM BOD; 7-9 PM Piedmont Division Mtg

TITLE: Nickel Plate Railroad HO Layout

Noted model railroading author Tony popularized the idea of proto-freelancing with his HO scale layout, the Allegheny Midland. In 2000, the Allegheny Midland was decommissioned and planning began for a complex multi-deck version of the NKP's Third District in HO scale.

BRING & BRAG: Bring your favorite Nickel Plate RR equipment or photo, or whatever you have been working on and want to share.

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018

1 PM to 5 PM

LAYOUT OPEN HOUSE: DR. JOE NICHOLS, JR. MMR

Alpine Central Railroad which is loosely based on the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad in 1917 from Como to Gunnison, CO. Layout features award-winning scratch built structures, locomotives and rolling stock.

8915 Ridgmont Drive, Atlanta, GA 30350

THURSDAY, MAY 24 through SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2018

SOUTHEAST REGION CONVENTION - BLUE RIDGE RAILS

Lake Junaluska Conference & Retreat Center at 91 North Lakeshore Drive, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745 For details go to [www.ser-nmra.org/convention/ser-2018-convention-blue-ridge-rails](http://www.ser-nmra.org/convention/ser-2018-convention-blue-ridge-rails)

MONDAY, JUNE 4 through SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2018

NATIONAL GARDEN RAILWAY CONVENTION

For more information, see ad on next page. Cobb Galleria Centre at Two Galleria Parkway Atlanta, Georgia 30339 For details go to [www.http://ngrc2018.com/](http://ngrc2018.com/)

TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2018

6 PM BOD; 7-9 PM Piedmont Division Mtg

CLINICIAN: DAVID GELMINI TITLE: REBUILDING SOUTHERN RAILWAY MOTORCAR NO. 8103

David and Tyler have acquired and restored a Road Car. They will present details as to how they acquired it and what they have done to restored it. Learn where it can run and the groups and organization that helped them in the process.

BRING & BRAG: Bring your whatever you have been working on and want to share.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 2018

12 PM to 5 PM

LAYOUT OPEN HOUSE: JERRY MICHNEWICZ MMR

Mitch's New York Central (MNYC) is based on the NYC's Michigan Division in 1950's Detroit where Mitch worked as a tower operator from 1957 through 1960. Operating light poles, traffic signals, grade flashers, signals and turntable.

2834 Beverly Hills Dr. NE, Marietta, GA 30068

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 2018

1 PM to 4 PM

TRAIN N CAMP - LAYING AND BALLASTING FLEX TRACK CHAIRPERSON: PERRY LAMB

There is a nominal fee of \$15 for this class. RSVP to [perry\\_lamb@mindspring.com](mailto:perry_lamb@mindspring.com)  
Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2881 Canton Road, Marietta 30066



The Georgia Garden Railway Society (GGRS) proudly invites you to participate in the 34th National Garden Railway Convention!

All Georgia Garden Railway Society and NMRA members are encouraged to visit garden railroads open for pre- and post-convention layout tours. Tours are 10 AM until 5 PM unless noted.

Sunday, June 3:

- Cullen & Patty Reid, 770-789-1488, 29 Stonebrook Drive, Euharlee, GA 30120
- Chatsworth Depot, 100 First Avenue, Chatsworth, GA 30705
- Ted & Deborah Yarbrough, 706-695-2155, 212 Love Drive, Chatsworth, GA 30705
- Randy Blackstock, 706-629-1488, 2577 Nicklesville Rd., Resaca, GA (11AM-5PM)
- John & Carolyn Lank, 678-574-4207, 3565 Walden Lane, Acworth, GA 30102,
- Steve Bohn & Karen Dixon, 770-378-3799, 214 Moore Valley Way, Canton, GA 30115
- Roy & Pam Williamson, 770-891-9462, 1031 Liberty Park Drive, Braselton, GA 30517
- Atlanta Botanical Gardens, 404-888-4760, 1911 Sweet Bay Drive, Gainesville, GA 30501 (\$7.00 admission charged).

Sunday, June 10:

- John & Marge Lees, 706-867-9966, 305 Town Creek Church Rd, Dahlonega, GA 30533
- Atlanta Botanical Gardens (see above—\$7.00 admission charged)
- Phil & Barbara Jones, 407-921-2345, 8084 Allerton Road, Cumming, GA 30041
- Paul & Mary Ann Gavin, 678-898-4375, 122 Brook Hollow Lake Trail, Cumming, GA 30028
- Peter & Lori Thomas, 404-435-5684, 422 Cothran Road, Dawsonville, GA 30534.

Some of these have been open before, but some have not. These members have worked hard on their garden railroads and would appreciate your supporting the convention and our members by visiting their open houses.

Helpers are needed to assist in running these open houses. If you want to assist, please contact Sally Bando who will have sign-up sheets at Piedmont Division meetings.

For more info go to: [ngrc2018.com](http://ngrc2018.com)



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Some exclusions apply. See store for details

# 2017 PIEDMONT PILGRIMAGE RECOGNITIONS

Members Recognized for 15 Consecutive Years of Participation in the Piedmont Pilgrimage



Joe Nichols Jr.



Chris White



George Bloodworth



Stephen Sprinkle  
Recognized for His  
First Time Participation

## Engineer's Wish List



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# ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM NEWS



## Achievement Program

The following Piedmont Division members have earned AP certificates:

- Joe Sullivan Association Volunteer
- Brian Glock Master Builder-Structures & Chief Dispatcher

Congratulations to Brian for completing all the requirements for the Master Model Railroader designation. Brian will become MMR #607.

April is contest month. At the April division meeting there will be a model contest and a photo contest. Start working on your model contest entries now.

We would like to see structures, rolling stock, and motive power. At the October contest there were no structures models entered whatsoever.

Remember, models do not have to be scratch-built. Kit-bashed models, craftsman-kit model, and highly super-detailed models are welcomed. All models must be accompanied by a contest entry form, which is available on the NMRA website.

First, second, and third prizes will be awarded in each category for which there are sufficient entries. Any model which receives 87.5 points or more will receive a Merit Award. Judging criteria can be found on the NMRA website. One of the judging criteria is Conformity. For those individuals hoping to earn a merit award, prototype photos and/or scale drawings should accompany the entry to maximize the points awarded for conformity.

There are four categories for entries in the photo contest: color model, color prototype, B&W model, and B&W prototype. Photos must be at least 5"x7" in size. However, photos of 8"x10" or 8.5"x11" are preferred. All photos must be mounted on mat material. Glass frames are not permitted. All photo entries must have been taken by the entrant and must have an entry form.

Charles Mason MMR  
Piedmont Division Achievement Program Chairman  
candmjason@att.net



Charlie Mason receives first and third place awards in the October photo contest



Brian Glock receives Merit Awards for eight structures models



Brian Glock receives the AP Certificate for Chief Dispatcher



Joe Sullivan receives the AP Certificate for Association Volunteer



Joe Sullivan receives Merit Awards for two cars in the October model contest

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# PIEDMONT DIVISION SPECIAL PRESENTATION



## TONY KOESTER

Tuesday, May 8th at 7 PM

Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church  
805 Mt. Vernon Highway  
Atlanta, GA 30327



Legendary hobbyist and author Tony Koester will present his Nickel Plate Road layout at our May meeting.

Tony's previous layout, the Allegheny Midland (AM), was chronicled in model railroading magazines and books. He will showcase his latest creation modeling the railroad he grew up with in his Indiana hometown.

Tony's contributions to the hobby includes regular articles and columns in *Model Railroading*, *Railroad Model Craftsman* and *Railfan & Railroad*.

Some of the acclaimed books he has written include:

- *Realistic Model Railroad Operation*
- *Realistic Model Railroad Design*
- *Realistic Model Railroad Building Blocks*
- *The Model Railroader's Guide to Coal Railroad*
- *Planning Scenery for your Model Railroad*
- *Designing & Building Multi-Deck Model Railroads*
- *The Allegheny Midland: Lessons Learned*
- *Model Railroading from Prototype to Layout*
- *The Model Railroader's Guide to Mountain Railroad*

This is NOT a meeting you want to miss!



# GETTING WIRED

WITH TOM GORDON

## LIGHTING BUILDINGS AND ACCESSORIES

There is considerable information regarding the powering of track and all its idiosyncrasies, but there is very little available about scenery lighting. So, let's dive in.

Just like track, buildings and other items (signals too!) require discipline in their wiring. Yes, it is easy just to connect 12v to a light bulb, place it in a building and be done. That, however, can be a problem. Consider the burned-out bulb. If you don't provide a means of bulb replacement, the building will eventually be dark. Burned out bulbs have been the bane of layout lighting for years, and LED's are helping to reduce the fear of structure dissection to replace dead bulbs. LED's should last long enough to not be an issue.

That was easy – right? Just replace bulbs with LED's and all is well? Not really. You need to be careful how you do this. There are several ways you can accomplish the installation of LED's in buildings. Some of these approaches are



Tom Gordon

expensive, some are cheap, but all require some forethought.

I decided that all (and I do mean ALL) structure lighting on my layout will be 9 volts. This simplifies bench testing and wiring. (9v batteries are easy to use.) Of course, not all LED's run on 9V (OK, practically none!), so some voltage/current reduction will be necessary.

This will likely require an assortment of resistors to verify that an LED will work under a 9v source. Resistors are cheap .... REALLY cheap! You can, with a bit of searching, find them for a penny each in quantities of 100 (try Jameco). So, buy an assortment... start with 500, 750, 1000, 1200, 1500 and 2000 ohms. That's a whopping \$6. There is a side benefit here. If you drop one, being inexpensive will likely reduce the amount of time you waste searching for it.

Some folks have fancy resistor selector boxes to test LED's, but being cheap, I just start testing the LED at 2000 ohms, and work my way down until I like the light output. Yes, you can calculate the voltage drop, but I usually use the old 'mark one eyeballs' to see if the brightness is about right. Many LED's are hyper efficient, so they need a bit of dimming anyway. LED's won't dim but within a certain range. To totally dim an LED you have to pulse the current – which is often way too much complexity for a building! Don't forget to keep the LED polarity correct to prevent the magic smoke!!!

Alright, you don't want to do all that? Well there are handy combo LED and power reducing assemblies available from some vendors that allow you to send whatever voltage (often 7-19v DC/AC/DCC) on two leads (polarity is not an issue) to an attached LED.



Those assemblies will reduce and adjust the voltage to what the LED wants to eat. These devices are nice, but, as with anything, the convenience has its price. You might spend 2 or 3 dollars for each light, which can add up.

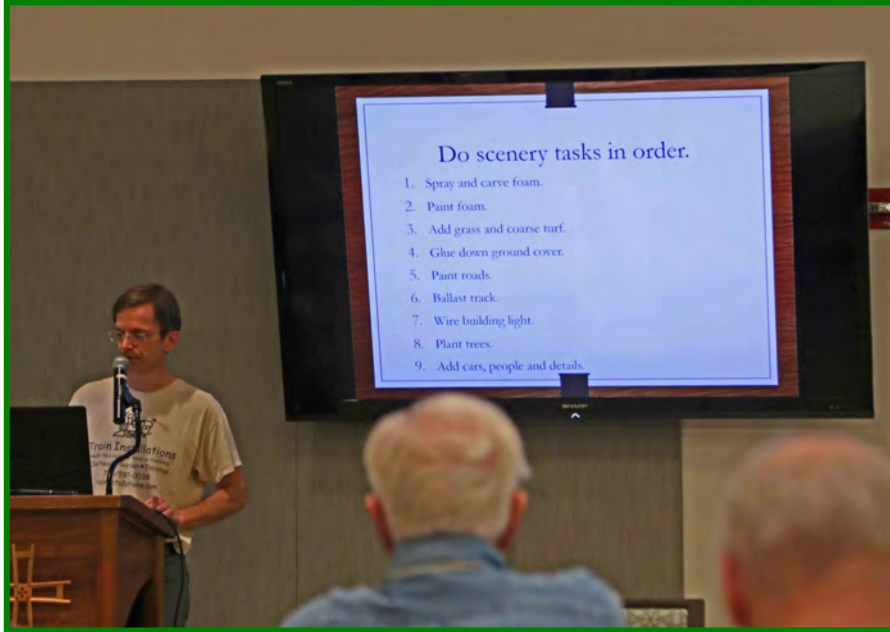
I have found Lights 4 Models (lights4models.com) on the internet has a good selection and lots of options. If you want to save bucks, check Digikey or Mouser for small LED's. If you do your own, you need to watch color temperature (2700K is about warm white, higher numbers get more blueish.)

Regardless of how you do this, you are going to have to connect the building wires to the layout. You should use some sort of plug, since you may want to move the building one day or test it on the bench before installation. I use what are called DuPont connectors, since they can be custom assembled, and they are tiny. Ready-made commercial connectors are available from many suppliers, but they can be expensive. The more price friendly DuPont pins and housings are available from Pololu electronics (www.pololu.com), Sparkfun (www.Sparkfun.com) and eBay/Amazon (for the more adventurous). This along with some good crimping pliers will allow you to make your own plugs/sockets easily (with practice). Insure you mark the polarity on your plugs and sockets... and as usual, don't ask me why I say that!

Have fun lighting those buildings, after all, those plastic people need to see at night!



# PIEDMONT DIVISION'S JANUARY MEETING DAVE BENNETT'S *TIPS AND TRICKS OF THE TRADE*



### Do scenery tasks in order.

1. Spray and carve foam.
2. Paint foam.
3. Add grass and coarse turf.
4. Glue down ground cover.
5. Paint roads.
6. Ballast track.
7. Wire building light.
8. Plant trees.
9. Add cars, people and details.



### SALLY BANDO TAKES CHARGE OF HER FIRST MEETING AS OPERATIONS DIRECTOR



Photos courtesy of James Bando



### SCOTT CHATFIELD DESCRIBES NEW NORFOLK SOUTHERN LOCOMOTIVES

### OUTGOING OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR SERVICE



Royal Bruce



Joe Sullivan



Alan Mole



# PIEDMONT DIVISION'S JANUARY MEETING BRING AND BRAG: UNION PACIFIC



BOB KRONE SHOWS HIS UP LOCOMOTIVE PAINTING



DR MIKE FLEMING DISPLAYS HIS ROTARY  
SNOW PLOWS

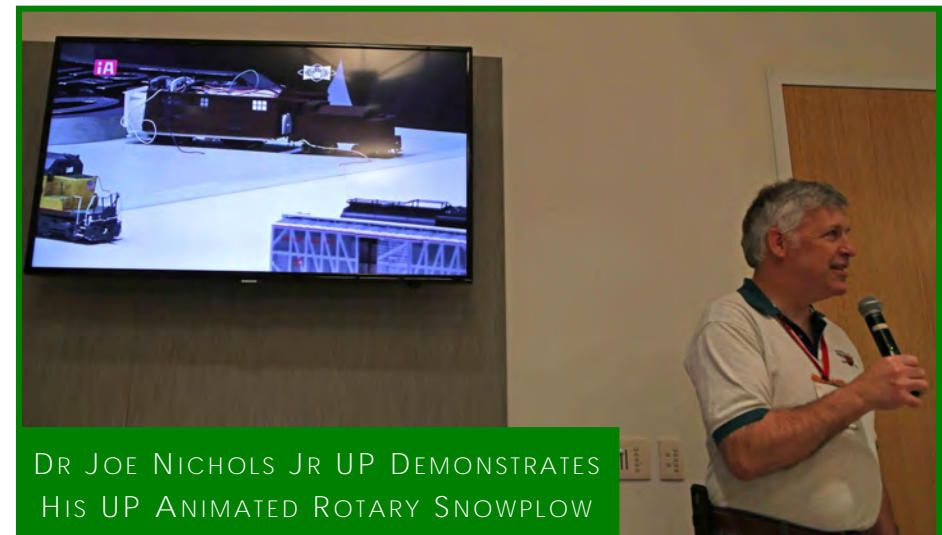


JIM BROWN DESCRIBES HIS UP  
PASSENGER CARS



MARTIN GULDNER PRESENTS HIS UP GP-40

Photos courtesy of James Bando



DR JOE NICHOLS JR UP DEMONSTRATES  
HIS UP ANIMATED ROTARY SNOWPLOW



# PIEDMONT DIVISION'S FEBRUARY MEETING THOMAS KLIMOSKI'S GA NORTHEASTERN RR PROTOTYPE



BRING & BRAG: PETE SILCOX  
SHOWS HIS MD&S RAILROAD  
S-SCALE BOXCAR



Photos courtesy of James Bando



BRING & BRAG: CRAIG KNOX  
1/4-INCH SCALE BIRNEY TROLLEY

## OUTGOING DIRECTORS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR SERVICE



Brian Sandberg



David Gelmini



# PIEDMONT DIVISION'S MARCH MEETING STEVE TODD'S HIGH TECH LOWERING COSTS OF DCC



Using new technology such as smart phones and Raspberry Pi's can significantly drop the initial cost of entry into DCC Model Railroad without giving up high functionality. Specifically, we'll demonstrate and discuss Engine Driver, WITHrottle, Digitrax LnWi, MRC WiFi, RaspberryPi, PISPROG, bluetooth remotes, and who knows what else.....

## HIGH TECH FOR LOWERING COST OF DCC



TRAIN SHOW CHAIRPERSON PROVIDES A SHOW STATUS UPDATE

Photos courtesy of James Bando



WALT LILES LEADS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

## BRING & BRAG: PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD



GEORGE STICKLE DESCRIBES HIS PRR HISTORY BOOK



MIKE FLEMING'S UNIQUE PRR T-1 LOCO BRASS CASTING



MARTIN GULDNER SHOWS CARS, MAPS & MEMORIBILIA

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# PIEDMONT DIVISION'S TRAIN SHOW SET-UP FRIDAY, MARCH 16TH AT COBB GALERIA CENTRE



FREE WHEELING BENEATH THE RAILS



MODULAR RAILS ON THE MOVE



Photos courtesy of Jim Datka



VOLUNTEERS AWAITING THE NEXT LOAD





# PIEDMONT DIVISION'S TRAIN SHOW MARCH 17TH THROUGH 18TH AT COBB GALERIA CENTRE



RAFFLE LAYOUT READY FOR SHOW TO OPEN



VOLUNTEERS STAFFING THE SHOW ENTRY



FIRST PAYING ATTENDEE!



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TRAIN INSTALLATIONS LLC



LIONEL LION GREET'S ATTENDEES



Photos courtesy of James Bando



# PIEDMONT DIVISION'S TRAIN SHOW MARCH 17TH THROUGH 18TH AT COBB GALERIA CENTRE

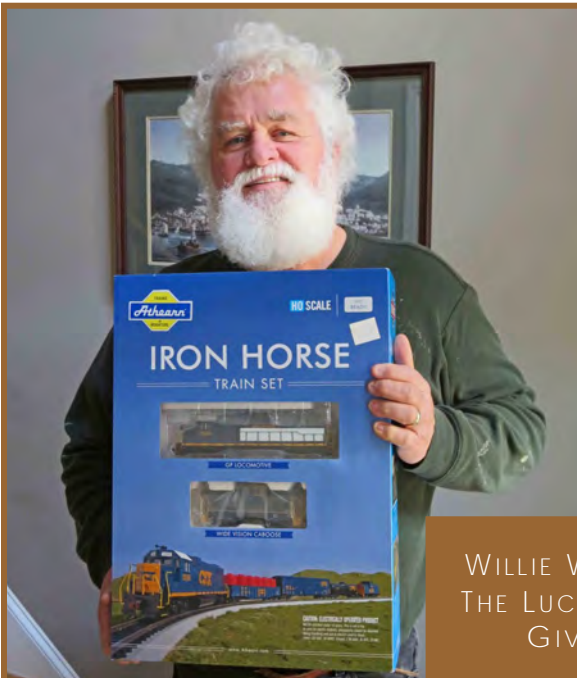


MODULAR LAYOUTS WERE A HIT WITH ALL ATTENDEES

CATSPAW INNOVATIONS  
HOPING FOR A LITTLE LUCK  
OF THE IRISH



Photos courtesy of James Bando



WILLIE WILLIAMSON OF MARIETTA WAS THE LUCKY WINNER OF OUR TRAIN SET GIVEAWAY—HIS FIRST TRAIN!



WHITE ELEPHANT SALE TABLES OFFERED GREAT SELECTION AND VALUES



# FEATURED MEMBER LAYOUT: ALAN MOLE'S MOLE VALLEY RAILROAD



The first thing you notice when you enter Alan's layout room is the openness of his transition era model railroad. When he moved his existing layout to his new home, four foot extensions were added between the three peninsulas jutting into the space. This is further accentuated by the furniture-grade trestle table legs built by Morris Smith.

"The probability of moving was on my mind when I sold the G scale layout and moved inside to set up an On30 layout. The space in the old house was about 20' x 13' so I worked with Morris to make 5 modular tables that could be assembled and disassembled fairly easily."

His new 32' x 14' space was built to accommodate the expanded layout. "I received great advice about the lighting, a combination of florescent and spot lights, and the power switches – one for lights the other for the train! Even though it took about 5 months from storage to reassembly, I am very grateful for the support and great advice I received from my train buddies!!"



The level of detail is beyond impressive. Every scene tells a complete story about what is being modeled. Each activity being performed is well thought out draws the viewer into the scene. Building interiors—and even caves carved into the rockface—are fully detailed and illuminated. Subtle humor can be discovered in many of the scenes.

Alan Mole



Photos by Jim Datka  
except as noted



# FEATURED MEMBER LAYOUT: ALAN MOLE'S *MOLE VALLEY RAILROAD*



The scenery is breath-taking. Alan downplays his artistic abilities explaining that the backdrop painting and rock carvings came from extensive internet search and practice, practice, practice. But the execution is truly superior.

The backdrop paintings complement the foregrounds beautifully, adding depth and giving the illusion of a broad vista.



His lighthouse scene has the rock face extending on to the apron adding to the impression that it is an isolated point projecting into the sea.





# FEATURED MEMBER LAYOUT: ALAN MOLE'S *MOLE VALLEY RAILROAD*



The wharf at the center of his layout is incredible. You can almost hear the gulls and smell the salt air. The hand-laid and weathered decking is most impressive.

While the River Mole and Mole Valley are real places in Southeast England where Alan grew up, the landscaping is more fantasy than reality. His intention was to create an inspired view for every scene. He has truly succeeded in doing that.

—Jim Datka





# FIRST TIME MEETING ATTENDEES



Jim Aberson



Bill Chappell



Al Karnitz



Greg Moore



Scott & Sherry Moore



Hank Primas



Bob Schwartz



Jack Spangler



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Did you know: Canadian singer/songwriter Neil Young is part owner of Lionel Trains?

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Did you know: Diminutive actor Gary Coleman was an avid model railroader? N-gauge of course!

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Saturday, June 30th

1 PM to 4 PM

Covenant Presbyterian Church  
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This hands-on class will cover the installation and ballasting of flexible track. The student will learn to:

- Solder joints between sections of track
- Securely attach feeders to the soldered track
- Apply and secure ballast.

The student will be able to take their completed "diorama" home and finish the remaining scenery.

Registration for this class will be limited to 8 participants and registration is required. There is a nominal fee of \$15 for this class.

A list of useful tools will be emailed to participants. Track and other materials will be provided, however, if a participant wants a particular ballast color, it is suggested that you bring your own.

To register contact Perry Lamb at [Perry\\_Lamb@mindspring.com](mailto:Perry_Lamb@mindspring.com).

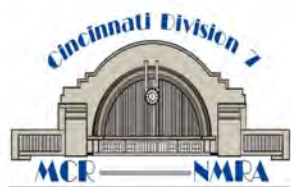
We cordially invite you to attend the *Cincinnati Express* 2018 MCR NMRA Convention hosted by Cincinnati Division 7. The convention will be held at the beautifully remodeled Cincinnati Marriott North hotel, located in the northern suburbs of Cincinnati. All convention activities within the hotel will be conveniently located on the same floor, sleeping rooms are heavily discounted, and all parking is free!

We're sure you'll find *Cincinnati Express* to be an enjoyable and rewarding experience filled

with rare and educational offerings for everyone. It will provide the perfect time to renew old friendships and make new ones. We hope you'll agree the *Cincinnati Express* promises to be a fun and inspiring four day event you will not want to miss. Visit our webpage at <http://www.cincy-div7.org/convention.html> for all the details and registration materials.

*Rick Crumrine*  
Convention Chair

*John Burchnall*  
Convention Vice-Chair



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67 layouts, 35 published, 10 in GMR, 5 at EJ *Bob Lawson* and *Larry Bonhaus* on Thurs Aft Great Model RR Tours + Hotel, EJ Layouts, Operating Sessions, Layout Open Houses



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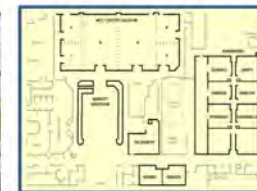


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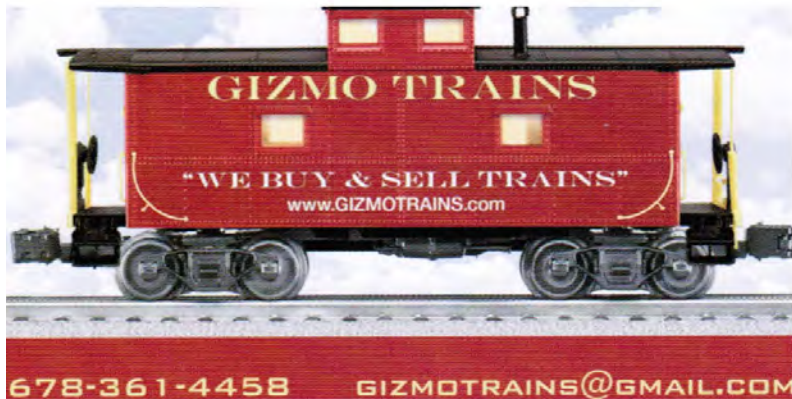
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