

November 2011

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THE *Keystone Flyer*

MCR
Div. 2

From the Super's Desk



Fall is one of my favorite times of the year. The leaves are changing color, the temperature is brisk and the weather is ever changing. This was the backdrop for our October meeting and trip on the Fayette Central Railroad. It was a beautiful day, although it was a bit breezy in Fairchance. The Keystone Division had a coach all to ourselves in which we held our meeting, chatted, met new and old friends, and generally enjoyed the trip. If you were not with us, you missed a lovely afternoon.

I would like to see more Division 2 members get involved in monthly meetings. The business portion takes very little time and the rest is about friendships and learning more about our hobby. Please try to attend some of the meetings. If you are a regular, bring someone else with you. Bring a non-NMRA member or a member who just does not come to meetings. When I joined, 25+ years ago, the average number of attendees was around 80 members. Let's try to get back to that level of attendance!

November is National Model Railroad Month and November 18th is Take Your Model Train to Work Day. I plan to take the Timesaver switching module I made for the Boy Scout Merit Badge to my office and let my customers play with it. This should be fun. If you do not have that kind of space or office politics frown on such things, display one of your favorite engines or cars in your space. The idea is to start a conversation and we might find that there are more "closet modelers" out there than we think.

In order to ensure the financial well being of the NMRA into the future, there will be a dues increase on January 1, 2012. Regular memberships will increase to \$44 and subscriptions to the NMRA Magazine will increase to \$22. This brings the total cost of membership with magazine to \$66. The very successful RailPass trial membership will continue at \$9.95. The current RailPass conversion rate to regular memberships is around 65%.

Division Meeting Schedule

November 20, 2011 - New Eagle, PA VFD Social Hall, 156 Chess St. New Eagle, PA 15067

Layouts:

Mid-Mon Valley Model RR Club, 158 Main St., New Eagle, PA 15067, open 1:30 PM

Fred Abrew, On3 Waynesburg & Washington, open noon - 2 PM & after meeting until 6 PM

Susan Werner HO layout, open after meeting

Meeting: 2:30 PM

Program: Dennis Vaccaro, "Trees - Not Just For Lumber Anymore"

January 15, 2012 - Ohio Valley Lines, 1225 Merchant St. Ambridge, PA 15003

Layout open at 1:30 PM

Meeting: 2:30 PM

February 19, 2012 - Western PA Model RR Museum, 5507 Lakeside Dr, Gibsonia, PA 15044

Bring'n'Brag

Nov Hopper Bottom Cars

Jan Anything Goes



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WISHING ALL OF YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

... Susan Werner

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Minutes From Last Meeting

Superintendent Susan Werner called the October 16, 2011 meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. in the passenger coach of the Fayette Central Railroad en route from Uniontown, PA to Fairchance, PA. The total attendance on board was 43, including several guests and children. The train left Uniontown at 2:17 p.m. with an Alco S2 pulling 2 coaches and 2 cabooses.

Several guests were in attendance. They were Marge Meehan's daughter Mary and Neal Schorr's friend Marsha Jindel and her daughter Surina.

The passing of the hat was skipped for this meeting.

Minutes from the last meeting of Sept. 18, 2011 were approved by the membership as published in the *Keystone Flyer*.

The Treasurer, Carl Volkwein, reported that Division 2 is financially solvent and explained the income and expenses.

Tom Gaus, Membership Chairman and Webmaster, reported that membership stands at 253 with the addition of 3 new members and the web page is very active. Incidentally, he reported that the busiest period is on Wednesdays from 12 - 2 p.m.

Bob Meier reported that the FreeMo group would be set up at the Greenberg Show in Monroeville, Nov. 12 & 13. In addition, the group would likely be participating in a youth program at the Carnegie Science Center Dec. 11 & 12.

ELECTIONS ARE COMING! ELECTIONS ARE COMING!

Anyone interested in running for any of the elected offices or serving as one of the appointed Chairmen, please let Carl Volkwein know. Carl is serving as the Nominating Committee Chairman. The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and Chief Clerk all serve 2 year terms. Nothing is more satisfying than serving the hobby as an officer of the Division.

PLEASE INFORM CARL NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 30, 2011 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RUN FOR OFFICE SO HE CAN PUT YOU IN TOUCH WITH THE EDITOR TO MAKE SURE YOUR BIOGRAPHICAL PARAGRAPH CAN BE PUBLISHED IN THE JANUARY 2012 FLYER.

Susan Werner

There were no reports from the Company Store, Video Library, Achievement Program or Education Chairman.

The Bring & Brag was to be held at the stop in Fairchance, where numerous photographs were to be displayed. All were encouraged to vote.

Mike Hohn, Assistant Superintendent, reported on the upcoming programs. November 20th meeting will be in New Eagle with the program presented by Dennis Vaccaro on the uses of trees other than for lumber. January meeting will be hosted by the Ohio Valley Lines in Ambridge, February meeting will be at the Western PA Model Railroad Museum in Gibsonia, the March meeting is currently open, and the April meeting will be held at the MCR convention in Greentree.

In Old Business, Susan stated that the early bird registration forms and pump house order forms are available from her and on the MCR Convention website, www.highlinetopittsburgh.org. The photos of the pump house will be posted on the site.

In New Business, Susan noted that November is National Model Railroad Month and the November 18, 2011 is Take Your Model Train to Work Day.

There being no other business brought forth, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m. The train arrived in Fairchance at 2:50 p.m. and departed again at 3:30 p.m. arriving in Uniontown at 4:10 p.m. All in all, it was a nice day for a train ride.



The *Keystone Flyer* is published ten times a year by Division Two of the National Model Railroad Association, Mid-Central Region.

Subscription to the *Flyer* is included with your NMRA membership if you reside within the geographical boundaries of Division Two. Additional, or non-member, yearly subscriptions are available for \$5.00. Make checks payable to: Division Two, NMRA-MCR and send with name, address, and phone number to Vagel Keller, Editor, P. O. Box 5130, Pittsburgh, PA 15206.

Pike ads are available to publicize your home or club model rail empires for a \$15.00 yearly fee. You may supply artwork or have it produced by the editor for a nominal fee. Pike ads are also posted on the Division's website: <http://www.keystonedivision.org>

Bring'n'Brag

October's Bring 'n' Brag contest was held on the Fayette Central Railroad Excursion during the layover in Fairchance, PA. The theme of this month's contest was Layout Photographs and four entries were received. The "layout photograph" theme was suggested to give members the opportunity to showcase some of their work that they normally can't bring to meetings because the subjects are built into their layouts.

First place went to Neal Schorr for his photographs of his O scale layout depicting the Middle Division of the PRR. The photos showed foreground details, trains, and the background paintings from the layout.

Second place was won by Marge Meehan for her N Scale Posterboard of 3-D payout photographs. Marge took multiple images, cut them out, and built them up in layers to get the 3-D effect.

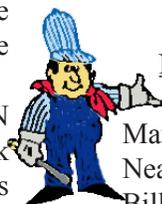
Third place was won by Keith DeVault for a collection of layout photographs he had taken. His photographs were in both color and black and white.

PAUL GALLICK

The other entry for this month's contest was by Bill DeFoe, who entered a photograph of the HO scale John Allen Bridge to which he added a Photoshopped sky and the steam engine exhaust.

Thanks to everyone who brought in models and voted. November's Bring n' Brag contest category is "Hopper Bottom Cars," and will be held at the next meeting in New Eagle, PA.

Bring'n'Brag Standings:



Name	Points	Name	Points
Marge Meehan	41	Dennis Williams	5
Neal Schorr	40	Charlie Hallman	4
Bill DeFoe	19	Tim Moffat	4
Keith DeVault	16	Blaine Reynolds	4
Robert Hickman	12	Dennis Vaccaro	4
John Ainsworth	10	Eric Hansmann	2
Joel Everly	8	Joe Lofland	2
Dick Flock	8	Larry Kline	2
Steve Hertzner	6	Jim Kubanick	2
Jim Dodds	5	Georgeann Reid	2
Steve Raque	5	Tom McCaffery	1

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Double-headed steam on the "Tweetsie," last vestige of the Eastern Tennessee & Western North Carolina narrow gauge railroad, during a railfan special for attendees of the National Narrow Gauge Convention, Sep. 9 - 11, 0011.

PUBLIC TIMETABLE

Events of Interest

Ambridge - Ohio Valley Lines Model RR open house

Gibsonia - Western PA Model RR Museum Holiday Train Show, weekends Nov. 12, 2011 - Jan. 22, 2012. Website: <http://www.wpmrm.org/>

McKeesport - McKeesport Model Railroad Club Holiday Open House, 2209 Walnut St., McKeesport, PA 15132; Phone: (412) 672-4490. Dates: NOV 26 - 28 and DEC 3 - 5, 10 - 12, and 17 - 19. Dates & Times:

Friday	Saturday
11/25 7 - 11 PM	11/26 noon - 11 PM
12/2 7 - 11 PM	12/3 noon - 7 PM
12/9 7 - 11 PM	12/10 noon - 7 PM
12/16 7 - 11 PM	12/17 noon - 7 PM
12 23 7 - 11 PM	

Admission: 18 & over, \$3; 5 - 17, \$2; under 5 Free.

Monaca - The Beaver County FALL Model Train Show will be held November 20, 2011 at Center Stage, 1495 Old Brodhead Road, Monaca, PA 15061. Hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Admission: \$4.00, adults; and children under 12 admitted free. For more information e-mail: info@bcmrr.railfan.net; Website: [www: http://www.bcmrr.railfan.net](http://www.bcmrr.railfan.net)

Monaca - The Beaver County Model Railroad and Historical Society's 2011 Christmas Season Open House will be held NOV 26-27, DEC 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, and DEC 31-JAN 1 at 416 6th Street, located across from the Monaca Legion in the old Pittsburgh and Lake Erie railroad station, right next to the tracks. Hours will be from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is free; donations are very much appreciated. For more information e-mail: info@bcmrr.railfan.net; Website: www.bcmrr.railfan.net/openhouse.html

New Eagle - Mid-Mon Valley Model RR Club Holiday Open House, 159 Main St., New Eagle, PA, Rt. 88, in the Municipal Building. Noon to 5 PM on the following dates: Nov. 26-27; Dec. 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, and 26; Jan. 7-8.

Youngstown, OH - Youngstown Model RR Assn Holiday Open House, 751 N. Four Mile Run Rd, Youngstown, OH 44515-1430. O and HO scale layouts. Nov. 5 - 6, 12 - 13, and Dec 3 - 4, 2011, noon - 6 PM; \$3.00 donation per person, children under 12 free with adult. For more information e-mail: yomodelrrclub@yahoo.com; Website: <http://www.youngstown-modelrailroadassn.org>

Submissions welcome! Contact the Editor with announcements, including dates, times, location name and address, and sponsor's name and contact information.



THE KEYSTONE DIVISION

NEW BOOKS AT THE COMPANY STORE ...

Pennsylvania Railroad Gondolas
Steel Railroads, Vol. 2
CONRAIL in Color, Vol. 1



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PRR Facilities in Color - Columbus Union Depot
Lehigh Valley in Color, Vol. 5
Buffalo Creek & Gauley in Color
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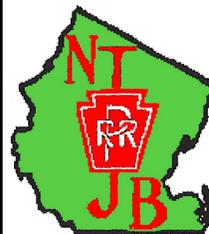
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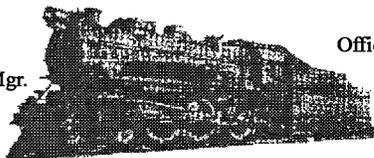
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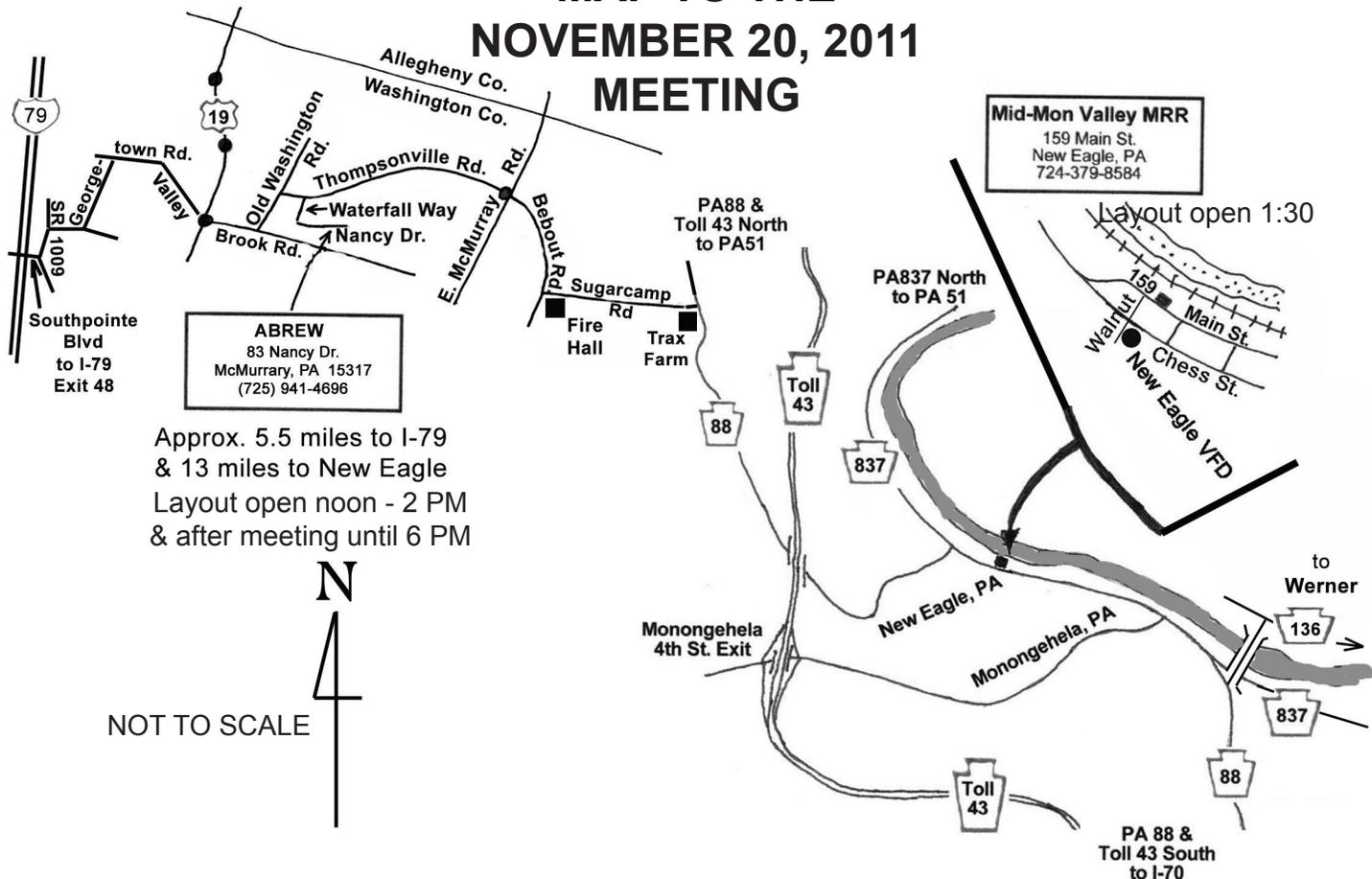
Robert F. Hickman
Pittsburgh, PA

EMAIL: wuho@aol.com

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Owner
&
Chief Engineer

MAP TO THE NOVEMBER 20, 2011 MEETING



The Waynesburg & Washington in On3 A New Keystone Division Layout

Fred Abrew's On3 layout will be open to Keystone Division members and their guests before and after the November 20, 2011 meeting. It depicts the prototype Waynesburg and Washington Railroad, a narrow gauge short line that ran between its two namesake towns in southwestern Pennsylvania, ca. 1905. The W&W was in almost constant financial trouble. It became a subsidiary to the Pennsylvania Railroad in the late 1800's primarily to capture the right-of-way for access to coalfields near the southern terminus in Waynesburg.

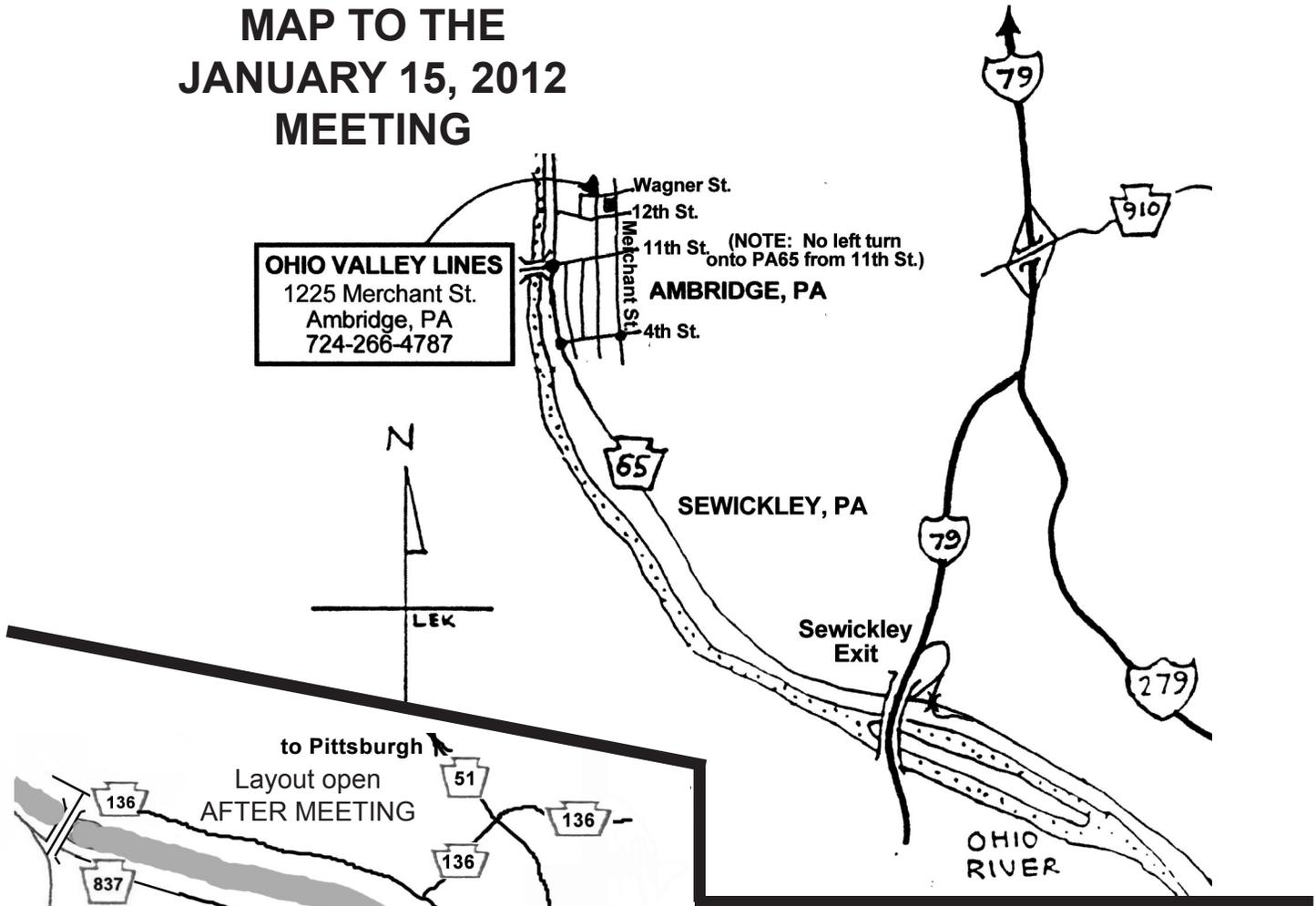
Layout design began in 2006, when Fred developed a conceptual drawing using 3rd Planit, which he believes was "the best layout software out there" at the time. Since then he has made "almost daily, certainly weekly progress," he says. Because he most enjoys building, the railroad is much more about challenging his modeling skills and less about running trains. He has hand-laid 232 feet of code 83 track, including numerous dual gauge turnouts, two turn tables, and two stub-end yards, with Washington having an interchange with the standard gauge Chartiers Valley branch of the PRR. Fred has also scratch-built several structures and pieces of

rolling stock, including models of passenger cars from Jackson and Sharp, a 19th-century car builder that supplied rolling stock to many narrow gauge lines in Pennsylvania. Scenery is as it might have appeared in 1900, not today: most of the hillsides were denuded of trees with firewood being a very important resource, so there are not tremendous amounts of trees on the layout. There is still work to be done in Washington, with the beautiful Washington Station still a dream.

Operation is essentially point-to-point the same way the prototype was operated, with three passing sidings that allow for meets. Operations, like on the prototype, are not extensive. Train control is by block, with two cabs, DC throttles feature momentum and braking. Turnouts are all electrically powered with Switchmaster machines. All bench work and trackage is complete; scenery is approximately 85% complete. "All in all," says Fred, "I am pleased with the layout but continue to work on improvements almost every day."

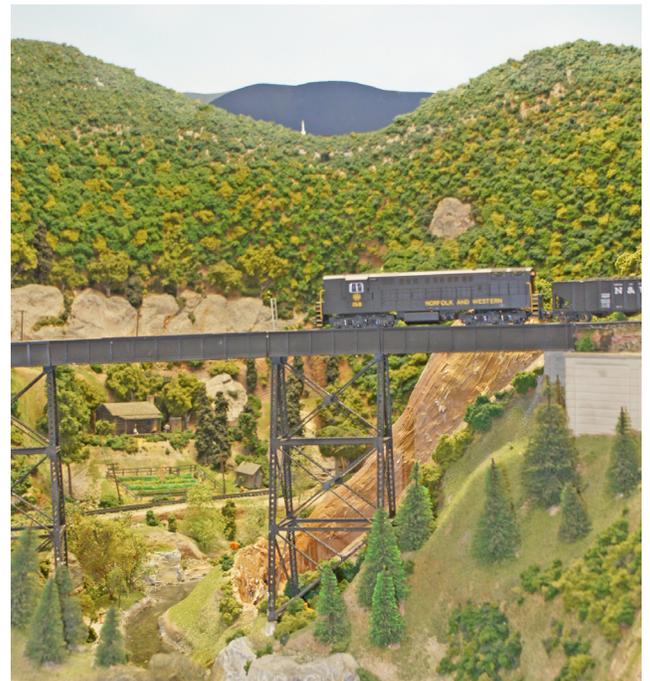
To learn more about the prototype W&W read the historical overview on the Internet at <http://www.narrowtracks.com/wwr>.

MAP TO THE JANUARY 15, 2012 MEETING



1 Mile south of intersection of PA 136 and PA 51, turn left on Salem Church Rd (look for old re-used gas station on left)

Cross over PA51 North & drive 1/2 mile down hill Driveway is on right; look for # 292 on 10-ft high rock wall. Drive up & around to the right. If raining, come to the door under the carport to stay dry.



Above, left, an undecorated C-19 class 2-8-0, recently arrived from Blacktone Models, handles a mixed freight on the narrow gauge portion of the HO scale modular layout of the Sippin'n'Switchin' Society of North Carolina during an open house for attendees of the National Narrow Gauge Convention, Sep. 9 - 11, 2011. Above, right, is a scene on the HO scale layout of the Southbound Model Railroaders, Inc., of Winston-Salem, NC, during their NNGC 2011 open house.

The Keystone Flyer
 Division Two, NMRA, MCR
 266 Gateshead Drive
 McMurray, PA 15317

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NEXT MEETING:
 November 20, 2011
 New Eagle VFD
 New Eagle, PA

<p>Western Pennsylvania Est. 1938 Model Railroad Museum</p> <p>(724) 444-6944 5507 Lakeside Drive, Gibsonia, Pa. 15044 Formerly the Pittsburgh Model Railroad Historical Society</p>	<p> MID-MON VALLEY MODEL RAILROAD CLUB </p> <p>159 Main Street, New Eagle, PA Meetings: Fridays 7:30 pm</p>
<p> McKeesport™ MON-YOUGH VALLEY R.R. MODEL R.R. CLUB</p> <p>Visitors Welcome MEMBERSHIP OPEN</p> <p>2209 Walnut Street McKeesport, PA Open Wednesday & Friday Evenings</p>	<p> OHIO VALLEY LINES INC.</p> <p><i>Model Railroad, Museum, and Library</i></p> <p>A modeler's information resource! OPEN Every Monday: 7:30 - 10 PM</p> <p>PHONE (724) 266-4787 E-Mail: ohiovalleylines@yahoo.com</p>
<p>All aspects of "S": • Scale • Narrow Gauge • Hirail • American Flyer</p> <p>Monthly meetings Two portable layouts Membership open Contact: Jon Knox 412-761-6920</p> <p></p>	<p> BEAVER COUNTY MODEL RAILROAD and HISTORICAL SOCIETY </p> <p>416 6th St. Monaca, PA 15061  Visitors Welcome</p> <p>Worknights: Tuesdays 7:30 www.bcmrr.railfan.net</p>