

April 2012

Vol. 54, Issue 4



THE *Keystone Flyer*

MCR
Div. 2



Editor's Model of the Month by Steve Ross

Division Meeting Schedule

April 26 - 28 - MCR Convention, Double Tree by Hilton, Pittsburgh, 101 Double Tree Dr, Pittsburgh, PA 15205

May 20 - Pennsylvania Trolley Museum, 1 Museum Rd, Washington, PA 15301



APRIL 26 - 29
Register Now
Form Available on
the Div. 2 website

Bring'n'Brag

- Jan** Anything Goes
- Feb** Railroad Stations
- Mar** Trucks, Tractors & Trailers
- May** Factories and Industries
- Jun** Gondolas
- Aug** Diesel Power
- Sep** Built Laser Kits
- Oct** Traction
- Nov** Open Loads

NOTE:

The convention hotel, formerly the Pittsburgh Radisson Hotel

is under new ownership as

The Double Tree by Hilton

Visit us on the World Wide Web at
<http://www.keystonedivision.org>



From the Super's Desk

It's election season again. If all the political wrangling on television has not driven you crazy yet, you should be reminded that there are elections closer to your hearts. This meeting will be the final chance to get your ballots to Jack Pscherer, the Keystone Division election teller. Please take the

minute or two to make your voices heard.

There is also a national election in the works. The ballot is in the February issue of the NMRA Magazine. We are eligible to vote for a President, Vice President - Administration, Vice President - Special Projects, NMRA At-Large North American Director and NMRA Eastern Director. Please take the time to read the candidate statements and make thoughtful choices. These people will chart the course of the NMRA for the next several years and will have a substantial impact on the future of our organization. Note that I said "OUR" organization,

but is only ours if we participate. Please do not be one of those people who complains about the state of affairs, and then does not even participate in the election process. The ballots are to be postmarked by April 10 and received no later than April 15, 2012.

Good news from the Winter NMRA Board of Directors' meeting! The NMRA ended 2011 in good financial shape and is currently rebuilding some of its funds from which it had borrowed in the past. In addition, there is enough money in the budget to hire a computer professional to repair, maintain and update the NMRA website. This will benefit all NMRA members.

In the "who would have thought" column, there is an organization of over 100,000 railfans and model railroaders in China. Although it is a relatively young organization, it is interested in learning how the NMRA is organized and will promote NMRA standards in China. Look for more information in upcoming issues of the NMRA Magazine.

Here's a new wrinkle on a recurring theme -- if you are interested in the Achievement Program or wonder why other model railroaders are, listen to The Model Railway Show episode 32 and hear MMR Gerry Leone talk about his experiences. You can access it through the website www.themodelrailwayshow.com and check for episode 32. It may be listed in the archives under February 2012. It really is a good listen!

... Susan Werner



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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>

Keystone Division Officials

Superintendent

Susan Werner
(724) 379-8584
swerner48@yahoo.com

Clerk

Keith DeVault
(304) 599-5261
devaultkj@comcast.net

Asst. Superintendent, Meetings & Programs

Michael Hohn
(304) 296-6303
mehohn@frontier.com

Treasurer

Carl Volkwein
(724) 941-6954

Achievement Program

Dennis Vaccaro
(724) 929-2190
vaccarodj@yahoo.com

Company Store

Dick Flock
(724) 850-8882
jlerr337@verizon.net

Loren McCullough

(724) 379-8596
lorenmcc@verizon.net

Bring'n'Brag

Paul Gallick
p.gallick@gmail.com

Webmaster & Membership

Tom Gaus
(412) 731-8846
webmaster@
keystonedivision.org

Module Committee

Bob Meier
SD45Bob@aol.com

Education Chair

Jack Pscherer
(412) 731-6795
JE1work@aol.com

Editor

Vagel Keller
(412) 441-7881
vckeller@comcast.net

Minutes

KEITH DeVAULT

Superintendent Susan Werner called the March 18, 2012 meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Zion Lutheran Church in Greensburg, PA, with 46 in attendance. Dick Flock of the church thanked everyone for attending.

The pass the basket is making its rounds since the division hat is missing.

We had one new member Forrest Lucas from Johnstown, welcome aboard.

Minutes that were published in the Keystone Flyer from February were approved as published.

The treasurer was absent but Susan stated that we are solvent, and if you have any questions on the report, please see Carl at the next meeting.

Dick Flock for the company store spoke about the new book Critters Volume 1 and Volume 2 which will be coming out shortly. He also has Volume 3 Steel Mills coming out, so please just stop by and visit if interested in these books or anything else that the company store handles.

Tom Gaus gave his report on membership; we stand at 234 active members. Tom also reported that we had 13, 499 page requests in the month of February which includes the convention page as the largest request for the month. He also reported today that we have 220 registered for the convention 175 primary and 45 families.

The Free Mo group announced that the July show in Monroeville will need some volunteers.

If you are willing to help out at the show, please contact Bob Meier about volunteering.

Paul Gallick announced that the Bring N Brag had 6 entries in the category of "Trucks, Tractors and Trailers" so please vote after the meeting.

Bud Brock was absent today so no report was given on the Video Library.

Mike Hohn the Assist Super spoke on the upcoming programs that April is our Regional Convention the Highline to Pittsburgh, May will be at the Trolley Museum in Washington, still looking for June and August is the annual picnic at Leetsdale Park.

No report on the achievement program and Susan stated that there is nothing pending.

The Educational Program chairman Jack Pscherer said that he has talked with Tom Miller the Regional Chairman of this program and he will be attending our regional convention, so please stop and introduce yourself to Tom.

Old Business, Susan announced that volunteers are needed at the convention to help with the contest room, white elephant room and company store. If you are interested please contact Susan. We also will need judges at the convention, please see Susan or Mike about this job.

The election of next year's officers was as follows: Mike Hohn as Superintendent, Keith DeVault as Assistant Superintendent and Dennis Lippert as Chief Clerk. Congratulations to these gentlemen.

New Business, Susan announced that the April Division Executive meeting will be held at the convention. In other new business Dave Wilson has donated his \$ 15.00 gift certificate from Scenic Express and will be one of the raffles at the convention. Thank you for your donation.

For the Good of the Division, Susan told everyone about Dennis Vaccaro and his heart attack and about his need for surgery. Susan asked everyone to say a prayer for Dennis for a speedy recovery.

Peter Lerro has donated a Pennsy Steam Drawing to the Raffle Room at the convention, valued over \$ 100.00

Joel Everly thanked Larry Kline for his contribution and to Susan Werner and Jim Sacco all the article in Scale Rails, Good Job by all three

Susan passed out the Scenic Express Gift Certificates from last year's bring n brag contest.

Please vote for bring n brag after the meeting.

Today's program is Part 2 of Mike Hohn's presentation on External Post Boxcars of the IPD period.

Next month's program will be the Regional Convention

Meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.



Hans Werner's homage to his German homeland is reflected by the antique Opel 2-door piggy backing on this nicely done Mack truck, which took 2d place in the March B'n'B voting.

Bring'n'Brag

March's Bring 'n' Brag contest was held during the regular monthly meeting at the Zion Lutheran Church in Greensburg, PA. The theme of this month's contest was "Trucks, Tractors, & Trailers," and there were 6 entries consisting of about 16 models.

First Place was won by Steve Ross with 10 of the 29 votes entered for his HO scale farm tractors and White Freightliner tractor. The farm tractors included an ERTL IH Model 756 to which he repainted and detailed, and three Athearn John Deere tractors; a Model B, a Model 50, and a Model 4020. Steve repainted details on all the models and weathered the Model 50 with Bragdon,s powders. His Freightline tractor was built from an Athearn blue box kit to which he added A-Line mirrors, shortened the frame and painted details including lights, grill, and tires.

Hans Werner won Second Place with 9 votes for his HO scale 1960's Mack Model B flatbed truck carrying a 1941 Opel sedan. The truck model was a metal kit that might have been an old Lee Town or Alloy Forms kit. Hans assembled and painted the kits and added a driver to the truck cab.

With 6 votes received, Dick Flock won Third Place for his pair of kitbashed HO scale tractors and trailers. His first model of a dump trailer truck was built from a Sheepscoot body on an Athearn chassis pulled by a tractor made from an Aurora cab on a Boley chassis. His second model of a flat trailer truck had a Pacific cab on a Boley chassis and a Promotex trailer which was shortened.

Dick Flock's tractor-trailers took third place in the March B'n'B voting.



PAUL GALLICK

Other entries for this month's contest included:

Bill DeFoe entered an HO scale 1950's Ford Tow Truck built from an unknown manufacturer's kit.

Paul Boget entered an Athearn HO scale flatbed truck with a kitbashed load.

Andy Lorince entered a set of 1/64 scale construction vehicles. Andy also brought in a collection of prints he made for slides his father had taken in 1958 around the Pittsburgh 'Golden Triangle.'

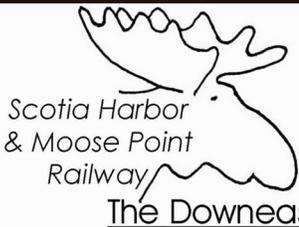
Thanks to everyone who brought in models and voted.



Bring'n'Brag Standings:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>
Marge Meehan	11	Andy Lorince	3
John Ainsworth	10	Patrick Altdorfer	2
Steve Ross	10	Paul Boget	2
Gary Carmichael	6	Jim Dodds	2
Bill DeFoe	6	Paul Gallick	2
Dick Flock	6	Charlie Hallman	2
Joe Lofland	6	Howard Heltman	2
Hans Werner	5	Larry Kline	2
Robert Hickman	4	Andy Lorince	1
Jim Wipple	4		





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Susan Werner, CEO
292 Salem Church Rd.
Belle Vernon, PA 15012
swerner48@yahoo.com

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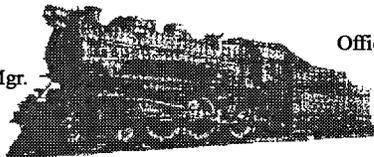


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3844 Henley Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15235
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Pittsburgh, PA
EMAIL: wvuhho@aol.com

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RAILFANS “OCCUPY” HUNTINGDON NORTHERN

Falls Junction, PA. Railfans have been flocking to the Huntingdon Northern Railway in droves to witness steam power on display in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Many are pleased to see Mallets working the tipples at Hickory and Meadow Run, drag freights using Decapods, Mikados and Santa Fe's on Sidewinder and Hogback Grades, and occasional covered wagons or GP 9s on the point with a “steamer” pushing hard on the rear to get those “black diamonds” over the mountains to market. All is well in Southwestern Pennsylvania, or is it?

It has been over a year since the Huntingdon Northern reached its landmark agreement with the Brotherhood of Model Locomotive Engineers that limited pay in exchange for saving the jobs of union members. These “savings” were used to purchase many used steam engines at bargain-basement prices, or so it seemed.

R.J. Prehoda, Director of Operations, stated that since the last contract was ratified, many “marginal” employees have been kept on the payroll, and the railroad is barely operating in the black! “We have had a number of inci-

dents that have delayed and even imperiled operations. Switches have not been returned to normal, crews leaving town without orders, and yardmasters putting incorrect carson trains just to get them out of town are just a few examples plaguing the railroad,” said Prehoda.

A new job performance evaluation plan has been instituted to help rectify the situation. “It is feared that some employees are better suited to running trains only under their Christmas trees! Education creeps slowly through the Alleghenies,” lamented Prehoda.

Suddenly, the interview was interrupted with the low growl of diesels climbing Sidewinder Grade; many railfans were eagerly waiting for the on-coming train with cameras at the ready. Everyone but Prehoda was surprised and disappointed to see a brace of brand new GP30s with “Huntingdon Northern” emblazoned on their sides.

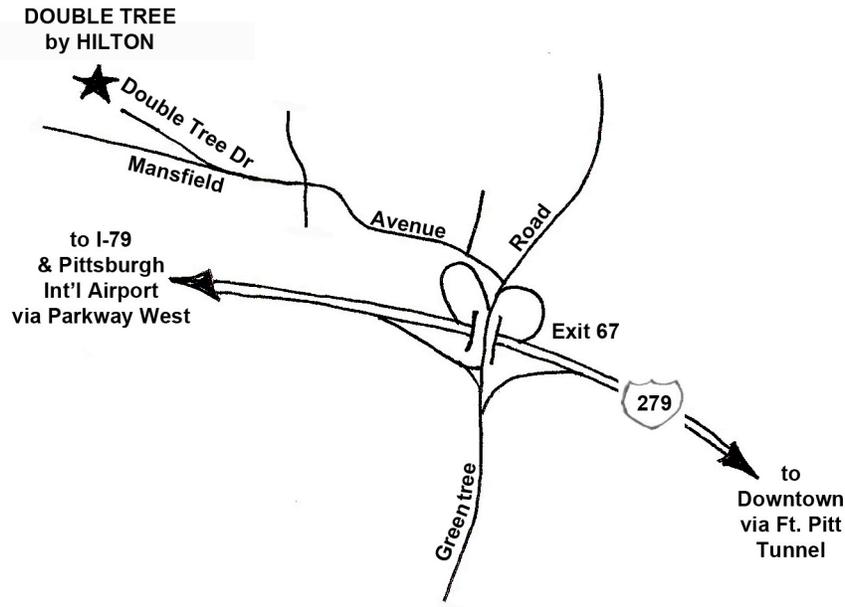
One disgusted employee was overheard saying, “We have been double-crossed again!” Mr. Prehoda was last seen pushing his way through the crowd of railfans to get a few shots of his own.

Editor's Note: Bob Prehoda's Huntingdon Northern will be on the self-guided layout tour after the MCR convention Apr 29.

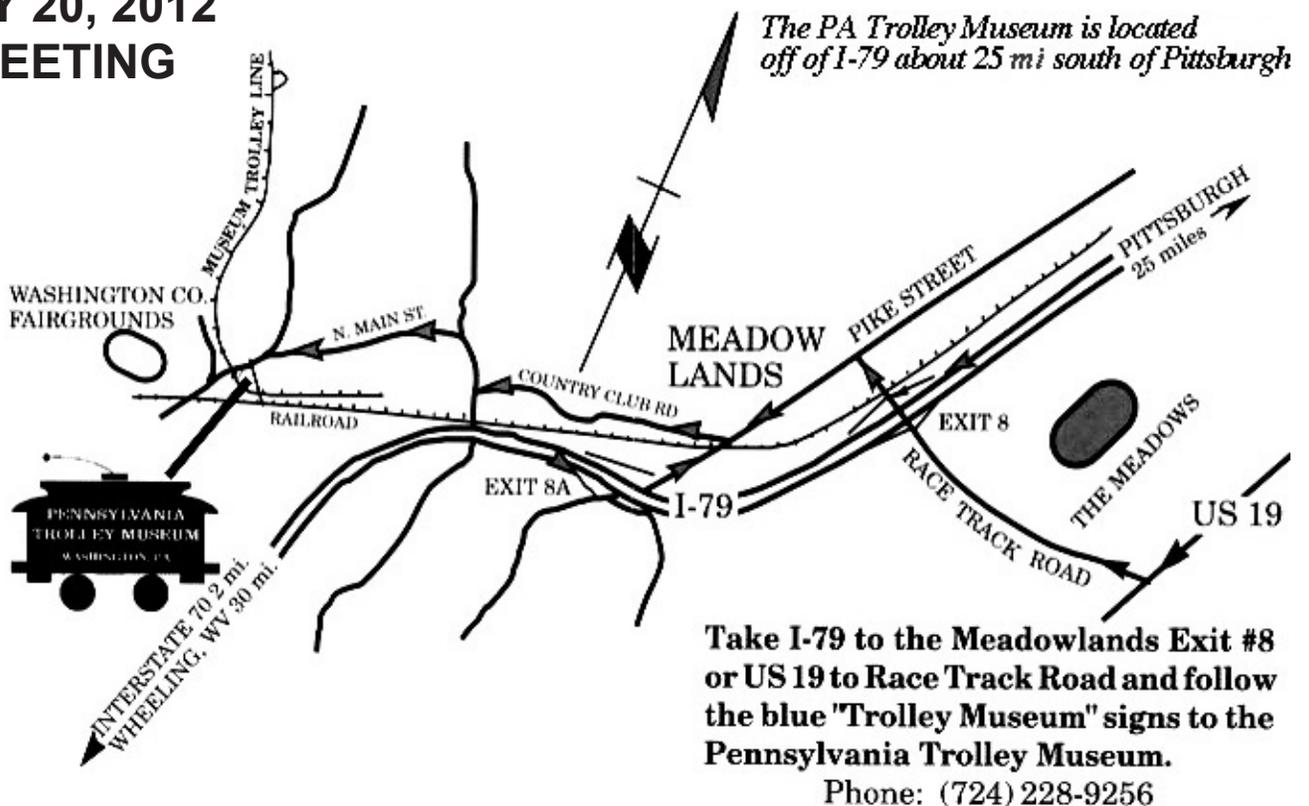


Apathetic (or incompetent) employees were unable to prevent a mob of disgruntled steam enthusiasts from torching the offices of the Huntingdon Northern Railway in retaliation for their annual Fall Foliage outing being destroyed by the appearance of diesels in their photo runby last October.

MAP TO THE APR 26 - 28, 2012 MEETING



MAP TO THE MAY 20, 2012 MEETING



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