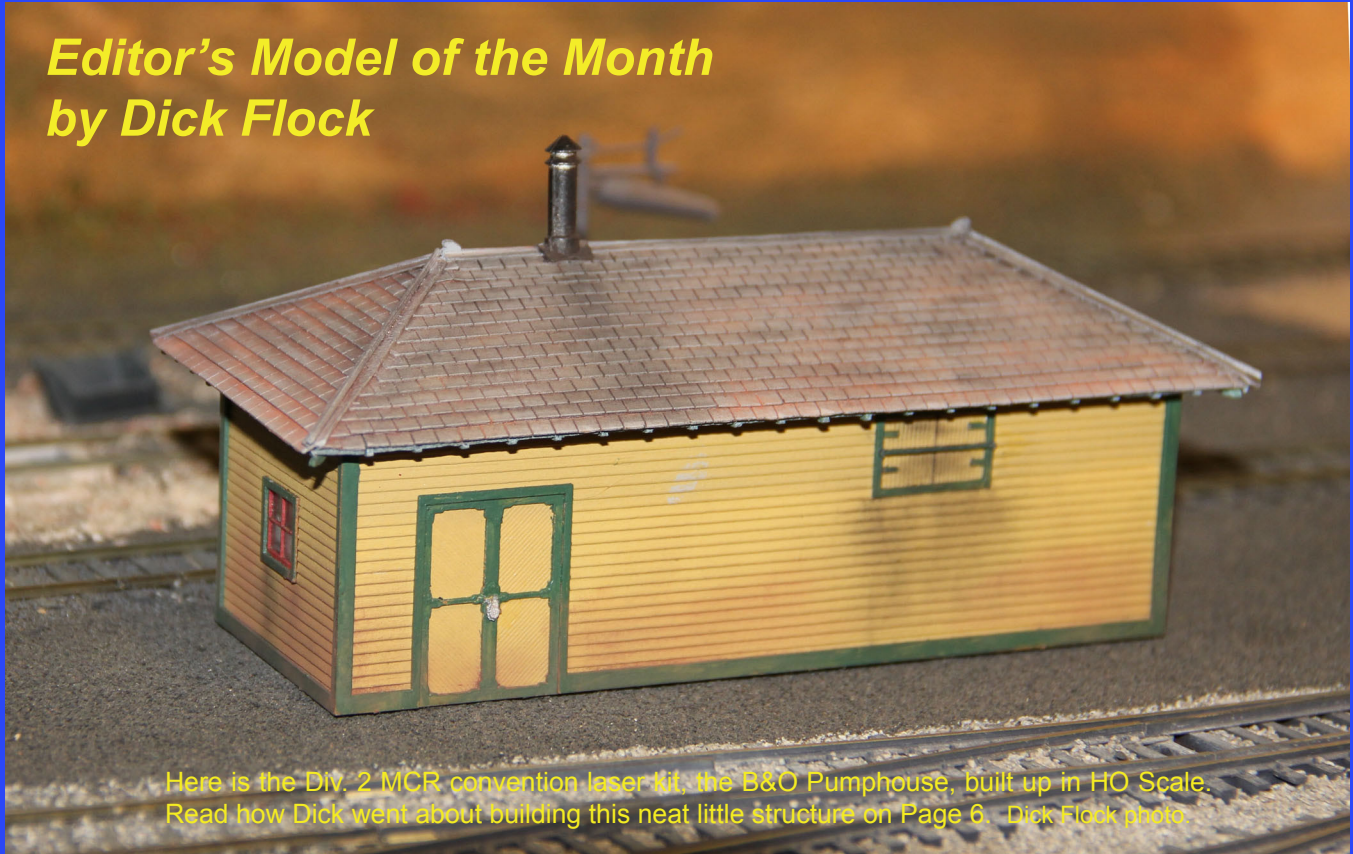


# THE *Keystone Flyer*

MCR  
Div. 2

## *Editor's Model of the Month by Dick Flock*



### ***Division Meeting Schedule***

**September 16** - Norwin Public Library, 1 Caruthers Ln, Irwin, PA 15642

Layout: Bob Prehoda's HO Huntingdon Northern open  
Noon - 2:00 PM and after meeting

Meeting: 2:30 PM

Program: Bob Meier, "Basic Yard Operations"

**October 21** - Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society (formerly Mon Valley Railroad Club of WV), 128 Pleasant St., Morgantown, WV 26505

Layout open at 11:30 & after the meeting.

Meeting: 2:30 PM

Program: Guest speaker from the West Virginia RR Museum

### ***Bring'n'Brag***

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

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



# From the Super's Desk

## LASER KITS

Noticing that the September Bring'n'Brag category is built laser kits, I want to write a few words about this relatively new phenomenon. My experience is almost entirely with wood car kits of pre-1900 prototypes and

most kits available on the market are for obvious reasons for structures. Nevertheless, I think the principles are the same.

After decades of building wood kits of the bundle-of-stripwood-sheet-and-metal-bits type and scratchbuilding—which is not much different—I find building laser kits a lot of fun and more relaxing, with many advantages and few disadvantages. First, you have to try hard to make the sides of the boxcar and walls of the structure NOT line up and NOT be square. You cannot build the kit cockeyed because of the various tabs and interlockings. OK, it's true, things do not turn out without at least a little care. Still,

plumb perfect.

The wood used in the kits I've experienced is very thin for walls and car sides, and has a fine grain. This contrasts with the much thicker sheetwood used in traditional kits, often with an out-of-scale grain, or the smooth surface of styrene, totally lacking any kind of grain unless distressed in some way. The fine grain makes a good basis for a newly-painted or heavily weathered model.

I've been told and have read that laser kits will warp after construction unless painted on both sides of the wood. Although I've not felt tempted to test this observation, a few months ago I inadvertently constructed a PRR boxcar without priming both sides; no problems yet, but the model possesses a pretty robust frame to which I glued the sides with lots of Elmers as I usually do. Generally I spray a neutral color such as tan or gray on the sheets of wood parts before construction. I'd be interested in hearing from others on this issue.

Selecting a light shade of tan converts a liability into an asset, because now you have a good base coat resembling raw wood to which thin layers of paint can be applied to get various degrees of weathering. This seems to work better than working with the unprimed wood. This also takes care of the deep brown color along the edges that look burned because, well, they are burned. Leaving edges unpainted is a sure tipoff that the structure or car is a laser kit, and is particularly inappropriate in the case of exposed framing such as trestles.

It is possible to kitbash laser kits like any styrene or wood kit with perhaps a little more thought. Openings such as windows or doors may be difficult to change, but I have shortened freight cars lengthwise by cutting out parts of the frame. The best way is to cut out a portion in the middle rather than one end or the other; you usually don't want to mess with the interlocking tabs that keep everything straight and true. A little more bracing inside the car will help; you'll just have to keep the doors closed. Curtains on

**SEE "Super," next page ...**

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>

### 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**

Meeting called to order by Superintendent Mike Hohn at 1:30 p.m. with 49 members present and guests for the annual picnic. John Gallagher was thanked for getting the picnic site for the 4th year in a row, and again was approved to have a 5th year at the park.

Bob Hickman volunteered his hat for pass the hat

Minutes of the June meeting were approved with no corrections as stated in the Keystone Flyer

Treasurer was not present with no report

Company Store, Dick Flock has a order catalog for the 2013 calendars and has the new books Steel Mills and Critters available, so please see Dick for items from the Store

Bob Meier spoke on Free Mo with a very good success at the July show and November will be Monroeville, so please volunteer to help in any way.

Bud Brock has the video library with the focus on building layouts, etc.

Paul Gallick has 7 entries in Bring N Brag, so please vote

Keith DeVault, presented the next 3 months of meeting locations, September at the Irwin Public Library with Bob Meier speaking on Basic Yard operations, with Bob Prehoda having his layout open from Noon to 2:00 and also after the meeting. October will be at the Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society in Morgantown with a guest speaker from the West Virginia Railroad Museum, with the Society Layout opening at 11:30. November will be at Mid Mon Layout in New Eagle with Susan Werner presenting the program.

Tom Gaus stated with are at 247 members with 4 new ones recently, they are Dustin Synan, Don Coulter Jr., Dom Candelone and Tome Pauck, please welcome these new members.

We had 8,452 page requests in June and 7,103 page requests in July. The Convention Page is still up and running and will have an update on pictures from the Convention added in the near future.

Both Chairman of the Achievement and Education programs were not present and no report was given.

Susan Werner the Chairman of the 2012 Highline to Pittsburgh Convention spoke that is was one of the most successful conventions that she can remember. On the overall scale rating from the reports we had a 4.7 rating out of 5 with 3 negatives and one being not enough coffee that was free.

Old Business none was reported

New Business-Susan made and motion and was seconded to buy registrations for the annual Jamboree for the 22 committee members of the Convention. It will be roughly \$ 28.00 each and will not include the banquet. Motion Carried.

For the good of the order: It was mentioned that Vagel Keller the Editor of the Keystone Flyer will have an article about building the pump house kit, and will have 8 remaining to sell, 7 in O gauge and 1 in N scale.

Susan stated that she was placed on the Nominating Committee for the Regional, and there is 4 slots up, so if you want to see about holding a regional office, talk with Susan.

Bob Hickman mentioned about the current issue of Trains and a map of the Trains in Pittsburgh

The young children in model railroading, we gave away 2 sets here at the picnic today, the first was won by Tanner Knapp and the second by Caroline Schorr, we had 6 young adults attend the picnic today.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. Lets Eat



## THE KEYSTONE DIVISION

... "Super," cont'd.

windows will hide the funny business inside.

I think everything I've written is generalizable from freight cars to structures, but why not build one of those early car kits offered by BTS or Alkem? Many an old box car saw life long after revenue service as storage for the maintenance people.

... *Mike Hohn*



Bill DeFoe's B'n'B entry reflects the adage, "It's never too late." Already 30 years old when painted in 1981, Bill has given it a new lease on life with all new guts to bring it into the age of DCC. John Polyak photo.

# Bring'n'Brag

# PAUL GALLICK

Other entries for this month's contest included:

- Robert Hickman's a Broadway Limited GE AC6000 which he had painted in DB&UP colors.
- Joel Everly's Bar Mills laser kit of Sweaty Betty's Diner complete with a scratch built interior.

Thanks to everyone who brought in models and voted. While I didn't get an exact head count at the picnic, voter participation in this month's contest seemed to be on the low side considering only 17 votes were cast. Maybe it was due to the distractions caused by all the good food available? Anyway, the next contest will be at the September meeting where the category will be "Built Laser Kits." Hope to see a lot of Pump Houses.

August's Bring 'n' Brag contest was held at the annual Division 2 summer picnic at Henley Park in Leetsdale, PA. This month's contest category was "Diesel Power" and there were seven entries.

Joe Lofland won First Place for his kitbashed HO SDP-45 painted and lettered for the Erie-Lackawanna. Joe's model received 4 of the 17 votes cast. He built the locomotive body by splicing two Athearn shells together, using fans from another shell and then a different frame. The trucks were rotated to get the correct centering. Finally a Multronics sound unit and cab interior were added.

Second Place ended in a four way tie with the following entries each receiving 3 votes a piece:

Bill DeFoe's HO scale Varney streamlined Pacific locomotive originally manufactured in 1951. He had painted and lettered it in the 1980's. This year he rebuilt it for DCC adding a Sagami can motor, KTM idler gearbox and a Tsunami sound decoder.

Marge Meehan's N-scale model of a diesel maintenance facility built from a Bachmann kit with a detailed interior and mounted on a small diorama with trackage.

Steve Ross's HO scale GP38 painted and lettered for Conrail with the Philadelphia Division Logo. Steve started with an Athearn Special Edition Set that included a model GP38-2 stand-in for the older GP38. He replaced the Blomberg M trucks with Blomberg B's, covered the sight glass window in the hood, removed an engine compartment vent and relocated the nose grab irons. He also added AMB window glazing and other prototypical parts. After some paint touch-up he lightly weathered the engine.

Dennis Williams's custom painted Overland NW-2 lettered for the PRR. He also added window glazing, painted the cab interior, reworked the drive train and installed DCC.

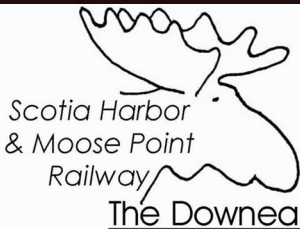


## Bring'n'Brag Standings:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>
Steve Ross	25	Hans Werner	5
Marge Meehan	21	Jim Whipple	4
John Ainsworth	16	Patrick Altdorfer	2
Bill DeFoe	12	Paul Boget	2
Joe Lofland	12	Jim Dodds	2
Andy Lorince	7	Paul Gallick	2
Dennis Williams	9	Charlie Hallman	2
Gary Carmichael	6	Howard Heltman	2
Joel Everly	6	Larry Kline	2
Dick Flock	6	Dennis Vaccaro	2
Robert Hickman	6	Robbie Whipple	2



Joe Lofland's outstanding model of an E-L SD45 was the the single motive power entry to reflect the fullest range of modeling skills - including kit-bashing, super detailing, painting & lettering, and weathering - to acheive truly outstanding results. Yet it received fewer than 25% of the total votes cast to eke out a well-deserved First Place finish in the B'n'B contest. John Polyak photo.



Scotia Harbor  
& Moose Point  
Railway

The Downeast Route

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

## Cumberland and Lake Erie Railroad



"The Laurel Ridge Route"

D. E. Baker, V.P. of Operations  
118 Laurlis Lane, Johnstown, PA 15904 dbakerr@aol.com



## HUNTINGDON NORTHERN RAILWAY



"THE ALLEGHENY ROUTE"

R.J. Prehoda, Operations Manager

Serving Southwestern Pennsylvania with connections to:  
B&O, CP&W, Erie Lackawanna, N&W, NYC, P&WV, PRR, WM



## Turtle Creek Railroad

"The Hardshell Route"

Serving the Center of the Universe

Ken Hanawalt (724) 941-3186  
Carl Volkwein (724) 941-6954

**Snappy Service** email: turtlecreekrailroad@yahoo.com

## FREEPORT AND CONEMAUGH

The Yellowjacket Line



## SALTSBURG AND SLICKVILLE

Serving PA Coal Country

Robert Livrone, Owner/Operator Lower Burrell, PA

## THE DUNADIN & DRAGON'S LAIR RAILROAD

Loren J. McCullough - CEO  
159 Donora Rd.  
Monongahela, PA 15603 - 3725  
loren.mccullough@comcast.net



Part of the WEST COLUMBIA SYSTEM



## WEST VIRGINIA CENTRAL & PITTSBURG RAILWAY

E. ROY WARD  
719 ROLLING HILLS RD.  
RUFFSDALE, PA 15679  
(724) 696-3028



Meeting Thursdays at 7:00 pm

## Mon Valley Railroad Club

of West Virginia

128 Pleasant St.

Downtown Morgantown, WV

Call (304) 284-9567 for more details

HO/HOn3



## Blacklog & Shade Gap Eastern Railroad

Vagel Keller, Gen'l. Manager  
vckeller@comcast.net

Follow our construction progress online at:  
[http://www.railroad-line.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC\\_ID=22893](http://www.railroad-line.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=22893)



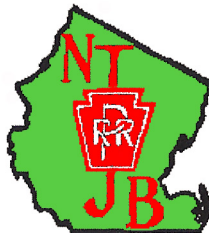
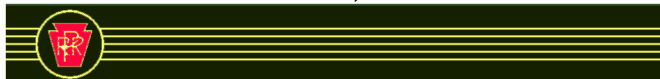
Richard H. Flock, CEO  
337 Elm Drive  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
724-850-8882

## PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

MIDDLE DIVISION

"The Standard Railroad of the World!"

Neal A. Schorr NMRA #69443  
Owner & Chief Engineer  
Wexford, PA

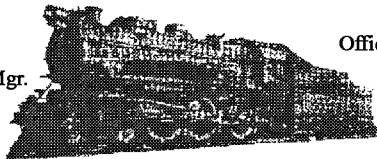


## PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD NORTH JERSEY BRANCH

John W. Wesner  
Owner & Chief Engineer  
3844 Henley Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15235  
412-731-7393 wesnerj@asme.org

## KNOXVILLE INNERCONNECTING RAILROAD

Mel Dithrich  
Pres. & Gen. Mgr.



Office: 236 Alice St.  
Pittsburgh, PA  
15210

H.O. NMRA 8C48



HO Scale

Robert F. Hickman  
Pittsburgh, PA  
EMAIL: wvuh@comcast.net

## PENN WEST STREETCAR LINE Under Construction

Owner  
&  
Chief Engineer



## FORKS RIDGE RAILWAY



Gary P. Nastase-President & CEO  
Kathleen A. Nastase-Train Wifey  
207 State Street  
Woodbury, PA 16695

Route  
of  
2008

YOUR PIKE AD COULD BE IN THIS SPACE  
FOR ONLY \$15.00 / YR  
NEED HELP WITH ARTWORK?  
WE'LL DO IT FOR YOU FOR A NOMINAL FEE.  
HELP DEFRAY THE COST OF PUBLISHING  
THE FLYER - CONTACT THE EDITOR TODAY!

# HINTS FOR BUILDING THE B&O PUMP HOUSE

by Dick Flock

I just finished my Division 2 pump house kit in HO Scale. Overall, the kit is easy to build. I followed the directions, including pre-painting the trim and other parts. That was a good decision except for the roof tailings. The added paint thickness, although minimal, made them more difficult to install the rafter tailings in the pre-cut slots. I recommend painting these items and the underside of the roof panels after the tailings are installed. The only exception are the four corner rafter tailings which should be painted in advance since they are installed after the roof is attached to the building.

After painting and assembling the walls, windows and doors, I shingled and installed the roof panels. Look at the plans before you do this. The stack should be above the boiler. I lucked out in that I oriented the roof panels correctly without checking the plans. I easily could have reversed the panels and the stack would have been above

the coal room.

The other challenge was the iron crowns on the roof. There were large gaps between the roof panels and the crowns did not fit well. I don't know how to cure that problem. I shingled the roof panels before installation and had about two and a half shingle strips left, which is enough to shingle a small building or three or four City Classics outhouses.

I used chalks to weather the roof and walls. I tried to duplicate the slate colors on my neighbors slate roof and was moderately successful.

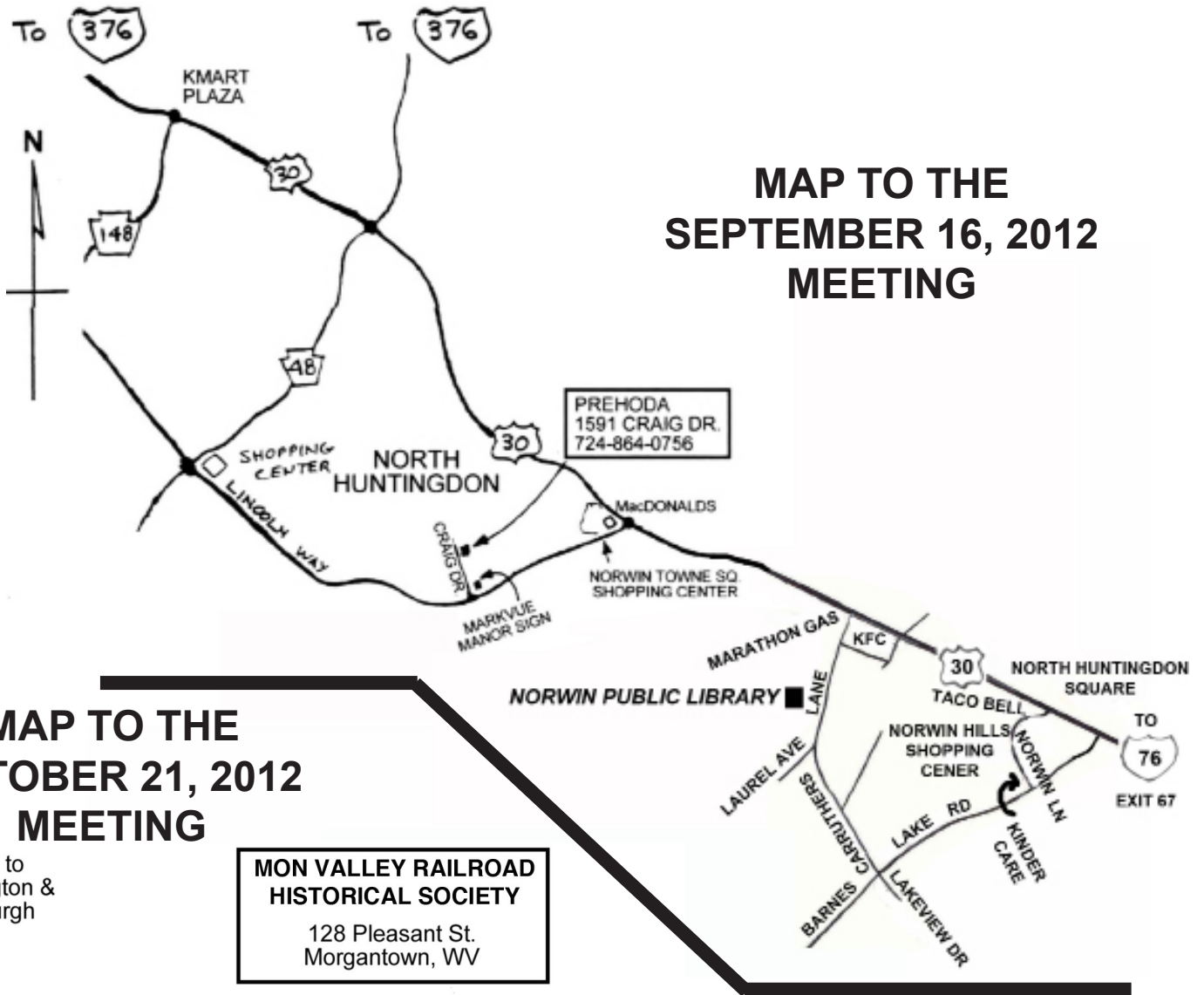
Detailing the interior should be an easy task if you cut a styrene floor. This can be done after the building is complete. I can think of many other uses for the building by adding a man door and a couple more windows. The kit is worth the price.



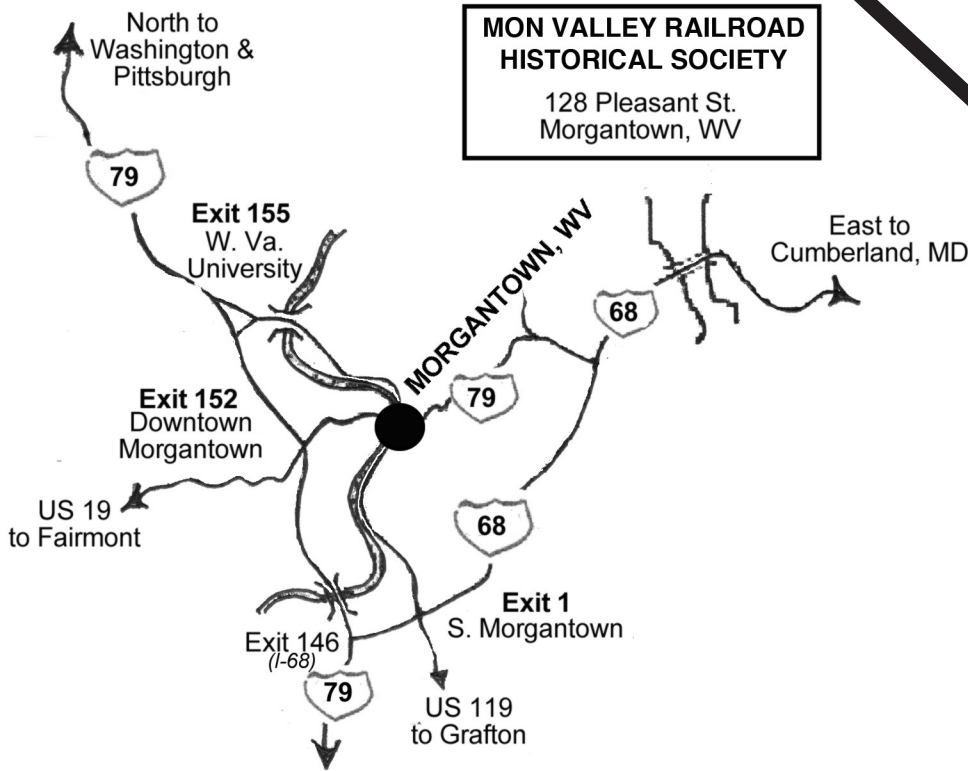
Steve Ross's HO kit-bashed CONRAIL GP38 (above) and Dennis Williams's custom painted Overland brass NW2 (below) were part of an inexplicable 4-way tie for Second Place in the B'n'B contest. John Polyak photo.



# MAP TO THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2012 MEETING

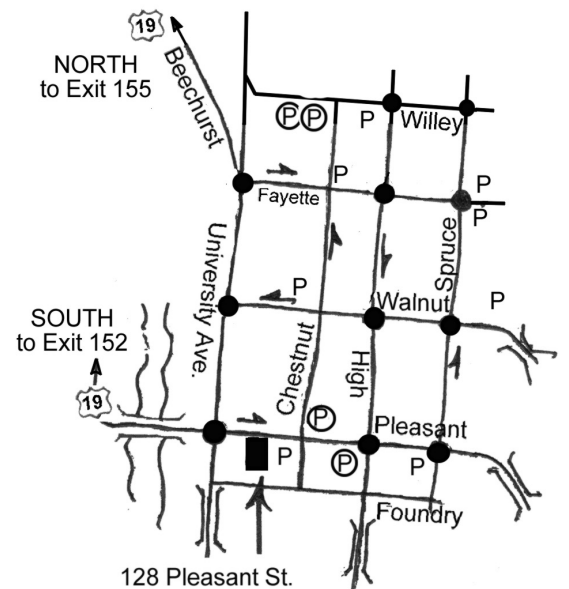


# MAP TO THE OCTOBER 21, 2012 MEETING



# DOWNTOWN MORGANTOWN, WV

Arrows denote One-Way traffic.  
"P" is for parking; circle "P" are free lots.



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

Non-Profit  
 Organization  
 U. S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Pittsburgh, PA  
 PERMIT No.  
 2819

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



NEXT MEETING:  
 September 16, 2012  
 Norwin Public Library  
 Irwin, PA

<p><b>Western Pennsylvania</b> Est. 1938  <b>Model Railroad Museum</b></p> <p>(724) 444-6944 5507 Lakeside Drive, Gibsonia, Pa. 15044      Formerly the Pittsburgh Model Railroad Historical Society</p>	<p> <b>MID-MON VALLEY</b>  <b>MODEL RAILROAD</b>  <b>CLUB</b> </p> <p><b>159 Main Street, New Eagle, PA</b>  <b>Meetings: Fridays 7:30 pm</b></p>
<p> <b>McKeesport</b>™  <b>MON-YOUGH</b>  <b>VALLEY R.R.</b>  <b>MODEL R.R. CLUB</b></p> <p>Visitors Welcome  <b>MEMBERSHIP OPEN</b></p> <p>2209 Walnut Street      McKeesport, PA      Open Wednesday &amp; Friday Evenings</p>	<p> <b>OHIO VALLEY</b>  <b>LINES</b>  <b>INC.</b></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><b>PHONE (724) 266-4787</b>      E-Mail: ohiovalleylines@yahoo.com</p>
<p><b>All aspects of "S":</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scale • Narrow Gauge</li> <li>• Hirail • American Flyer</li> </ul> <p>Monthly meetings      Two portable layouts  <b>Membership open</b>      Contact: Jon Knox 724-287-6829</p> 	<p> <b>BEAVER COUNTY</b>  <b>MODEL RAILROAD and HISTORICAL SOCIETY</b> </p> <p>416 6th St.      Monaca, PA 15061  Visitors Welcome</p> <p>Worknights: Tuesdays 7:30  <a href="http://www.bcmrr.railfan.net">www.bcmrr.railfan.net</a></p>