

March 2013



Vol. 55, Issue 3

THE *Keystone Flyer*

MCR
Div. 2



Editor's Model of the Month by Joe Lofland

Division Meeting Schedule

March 17 - McKeesport Model RR Club, 2209 Walnut St, McKeesport, PA 15132
Layout open 1:00 PM
Meeting: 2:30 PM

April 27 (Saturday) - **JAMBOREE**
Sewall Center, Robert Morris University, Moon Campus
6001 University Blvd, Moon, PA 15108
(Flyer & Registration Form, p. 7)

May 19 - TBD

Bring'n'Brag

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| Jan | Anything Goes |
| Feb | Intermodal Equipment |
| Mar | Steam Power |
| May | MOW Equipment |
| Jun | Off-Line Structures |
| Aug | Boxcars |
| Sep | Tank Cars |
| Oct | Interlocking/Switch/Yard Towers |
| Nov | Plants & Trees |

Editor's Note: I am sure you all join me in mourning the untimely death of former Div. 2 member John Roberts, as is mentioned in the "Minutes." Space limitations prevented an obituary from appearing in this issue. The Roberts family asks that in lieu of flowers, memorial gifts be sent to the Diamond Club, NMRA, 4121 Cromwell Rd, Chattanooga, TN 37421. Cards and letters may be sent to the family at 104 Heritage Point, Williamsburg, VA 23188.

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



From the Super's Desk

Some More Blogs

Since the program I gave on blogs at the January meeting, I've been sent addresses of a couple more from people you will recognize. Shortly after the January meeting, Larry Kline sent me the link to Vagel Keller's blog:

http://www.railroad-line.com/discussion/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=22893

Vagel posts a lot of photos of his progress, with descriptions of how he goes about constructing his layout, including track, scenery, backdrop details, and so forth. Some posts are rather whimsical, such as the "Golden Carpet Tac" ceremony. No, I'm going to reveal what it was; you'll have to look for yourself. Vagel's layout was open for one of our monthly meetings last year, but if you missed it, check out his site for some good views.

A couple of weeks ago, I heard from Don Reed:

http://www.railroad-line.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=30496

Again, a blog with lots of photos of his progress. He uses his posts as a way to ask questions and seek guidance from his readers; conversations can get involved, but there's often useful knowledge amidst the head-scratching and updates on his life and activities in general.

Our monthly meetings rarely provide enough time to catch up on the rail or personal activities of our members, but blogs like Vagel's and Don's provide a window into their lives during the 99.99% of the time we are away from each other.

I mentioned several blogs of division members or ex-members in my program; I'll repeat them here in case readers want the addresses. First, Tony Thompson writes a very informative blog that reflects his wide railroading interests and knowledge of both modeling and the prototype. The address is:

<http://modelingthesp.blogspot.com/>

To give a sampling, here are unedited titles of his posts in the past month:

- Adding a storage shed to my packing house*
- Background flats-2: kitbashing*
- Waybills-27: collected posts*
- Keeping a model car fleet under control*
- A packing shed for Shumala, Part 3*
- Signs for structures*

Eric Hansmann, living in El Paso, TX, updates his blog about every 2 weeks now that he appears to be settled:

<http://designbuildop.hansmanns.org/>

See "Super," p. 3

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>

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Minutes

DENNIS LIPPERT

The February meeting was called to order by Superintendent, Michael Hohn, at 2:32 PM.

A round of thanks was given to the Museum for sponsoring the meeting. It's always nice to see what's new, and the facility provides an excellent meeting space.

Mike asked if there were any new members or guests in attendance. New member Harold Roth introduced himself, moving to the area from the Carolina Southern Division. Two guests were also introduced.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer's Report: Carl Volkwein read the January report, and it was filed for audit.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs: Keith DeVault reported on the upcoming schedule. March 17 is at the McKeesport Club, April 27 is the Jamboree.

Editor: Vagel Keller reported that he has (finally) updated the slate of officers in the online version of the *Keystone Flyer*... and that the deadline for submissions for the March issue is March 1st.

Bring N Brag: Paul Gallick reported four entries for this month's category of Intermodal.

Company Store: Dick Flock reported several new books in stock this month ... he also stated that he can *order*

THE KEYSTONE DIVISION

"Super," cont'd ...

Obviously, Eric is describing progress on his new layout, representing the B&O in Wheeling, WV.

And finally, our very own Charlie Blenko, with a blog that is strong in photos:

<http://pittsburghmainline.weebly.com/train-nerds-blog.html>

Blogs can be very personal. In most cases blog hosting sites require the person wanting to respond to a post to be a registered member, thus encouraging constructive and appropriate responses. This can be a nice way to stay in touch with hobbyist friends, yet not so public as more general social media. Also, there is opportunity to learn something new as we all figure out the best way to tackle a modeling challenge; at least, the best way for us.

... *Mike Hohn*

items that you want, but he isn't going to be buying as many items to keep in stock. To find out about new offerings that will be available to order, sign up with Susan Werner to be on the Div 2 email list.

Video Library: Bud Brock offered no report.

Membership: Tom Gaus reported that membership was up a little this month. We're working on the logistics of a system to contact members who drop out.

Web: Tom reported that he's always looking for submissions of club shows, etc for the website calendar.

Freemo: Bob Meier reported that our next scheduled event is the July Greenberg show.

Achievement Program: Dennis Vaccaro reported that it's been all quiet on the achievement front for a while. He'd like to see that change!

Education: Jack Pscherer was not present.

OLD BUSINESS

Jamboree: Grier Kuhn reported on the upcoming event, April 27th! Advertising flyers are available. Take a handful to your Local Hobby Shop! See the web site for full details. Bring a friend! The Jamboree is a great way to introduce new folks to Division 2. New this year will be a Switching Contest sponsored by the S scalers... and we will again have the White Elephant room, benefitting the Div 2 Freemo group.

Larry Kline announced the upcoming RPM East prototype modelers event on March 21/22/23. It's a Division-sponsored event, held at the Ramada (former Sheraton Four Points) in Greensburg. Registration is \$35 for the whole event, or a one-day pass can be had for Friday or Saturday only... for \$20. Details on the web site.

New digital projector: Keith DeVault is working with Dennis Vaccaro on this, should have one in time for the Jamboree.

NEW BUSINESS – None presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Activity surrounding the 2014 NMRA National Convention in Cleveland is ramping up. They're looking for clinicians, etc at this time. On the web: <http://www.2014cleveland.org/>

It was reported that longtime Div 2 member and very prominent NMRA figure, John Roberts was suffering from Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. The prognosis was dire... and, in fact, we have been informed of John's passing on March 1. He will be greatly missed.

Bring'n'Brag

February's Bring 'n' Brag contest was held at the monthly meeting hosted by the Western PA Model Railroad Museum in Gibsonia, PA. The theme of this month's contest was "Intermodal Equipment" and 4 entries were submitted.

Joe Lofland's HO Scale model of a PRR flat car won first place after receiving 12 of the 33 votes cast and counted. He started with a Bowser kit which was kitbashed with a large number of extra details. Joe received an extra point for kitbashing.

Second place was won by Bill DeFoe with 10 votes for his HO scale flat car and trailer (below, right). Bill started with a Varney sheet metal car from the 1950's which he lowered and added a wooden deck to. His van trailer was built from a Quality Craft wood kit. Bill received an extra point for kitbashing of his models.

Third place was won by Larry Kline with 7 votes received for his collection of three O scale Western Maryland cabooses (below, left). His model of Cabin Number 1801 was built from a Central Hobby Supply resin kit. He replaced the running boards, trucks and wire handrails on



The Keystone Division

"Minutes," cont'd ...

Joe Lofland, of JJL Models, showed two current projects. One is a custom run of Bowser 70-ton hopper cars painted in Erie Lackawanna... available as kits, or assembled with Kadees and Intermountain wheels. The other was the body casting for Joe's upcoming Erie Lackawanna bay-window caboose, which will be a resin HO scale kit. Very nice stuff.

Don Reed reported that Division member Roger Martin is recovering after complications that followed heart surgery. He is recovering at the Lifecare facility in the former Suburban General hospital in Bellevue.

Forrest Lucas, from Johnstown PA (Susquehanna Region) reported on upcoming train shows at the Altoona Convention Center... and said that they are working to add an NMRA event in conjunction with it.

Dick Flock reported that he and Roy Ward will be presenting a program on the Southeast Secondary on May 14th at the Rt 30 Historical Center. He also mentioned the need to move the June meeting's date to avoid Father's Day.

PAUL GALLICK

his other two models.

Other entries for this month's contest included:

Andy Lorince entered a set of S scale intermodal equipment including a SSW three unit spline car set, an American Models flat car, an S-Helper TOFC, and some DesPlains Hobby double stack cars and loads. He also included an S-Helper Service SW-9 that he plans on repainting for Shawmut Lines.

Forrest Lucas brought in the new Spring Mills HO Scale B&O caboose for display only.

Thanks to everyone who brought in models and voted. The standings from last month have been amended to include an additional point for kitbashing for Greg Dixon's open auto rack models. The next contest will be at the March Meeting in McKeesport, PA. Next month's contest category is 'Steam Power.'

Bring'n'Brag Standings:



Name	Points	Name	Points
Dom Candelore	8	Dennis Lippert	4
Joe Lofland	7	Greg Dixon	3
John Ainsworth	6	Bob Hickman	2
Larry Kline	6	Joel Everly	2
Bill DeFoe	6	Andy Lorince	2



It was mentioned that we think there is now a standing rule to cover that. If not, it will be brought to the membership for the March meeting.

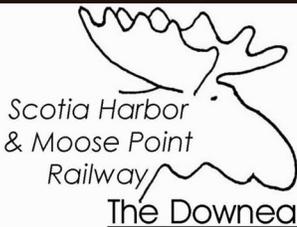
Dennis Vaccaro reported that the Midwest Narrow Gauge show will be held March 21-23 in Canfield OH.

Susan Werner reported that her club was given a bunch of HO trains during its recent show, and that they have decided to pass them along to Bob Evans at the Ambridge Club to help with his annual project there.

Bud Brock reported that the IPMS (Intl Plastic Modelers' Society) is having their annual Pittsburgh TRICON event at AW Beatty Tech School in the North Hills on Mar 23rd.

With no other business to transact, the meeting was adjourned at 3:09 PM.





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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



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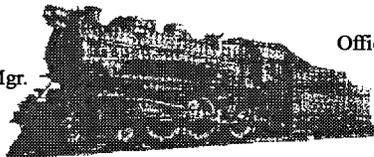


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HO Scale

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Pittsburgh, PA
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PENN WEST STREETCAR LINE Under Construction

Owner
&
Chief Engineer



FORKS RIDGE RAILWAY

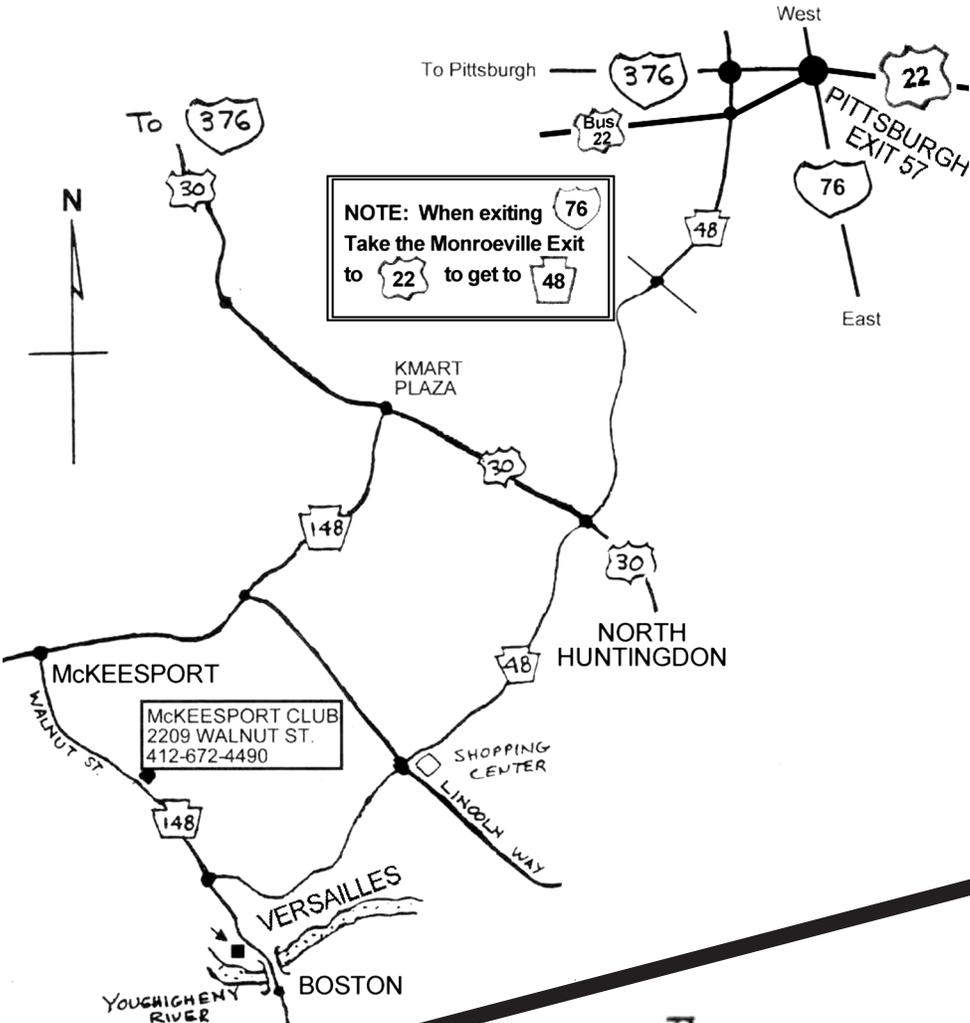


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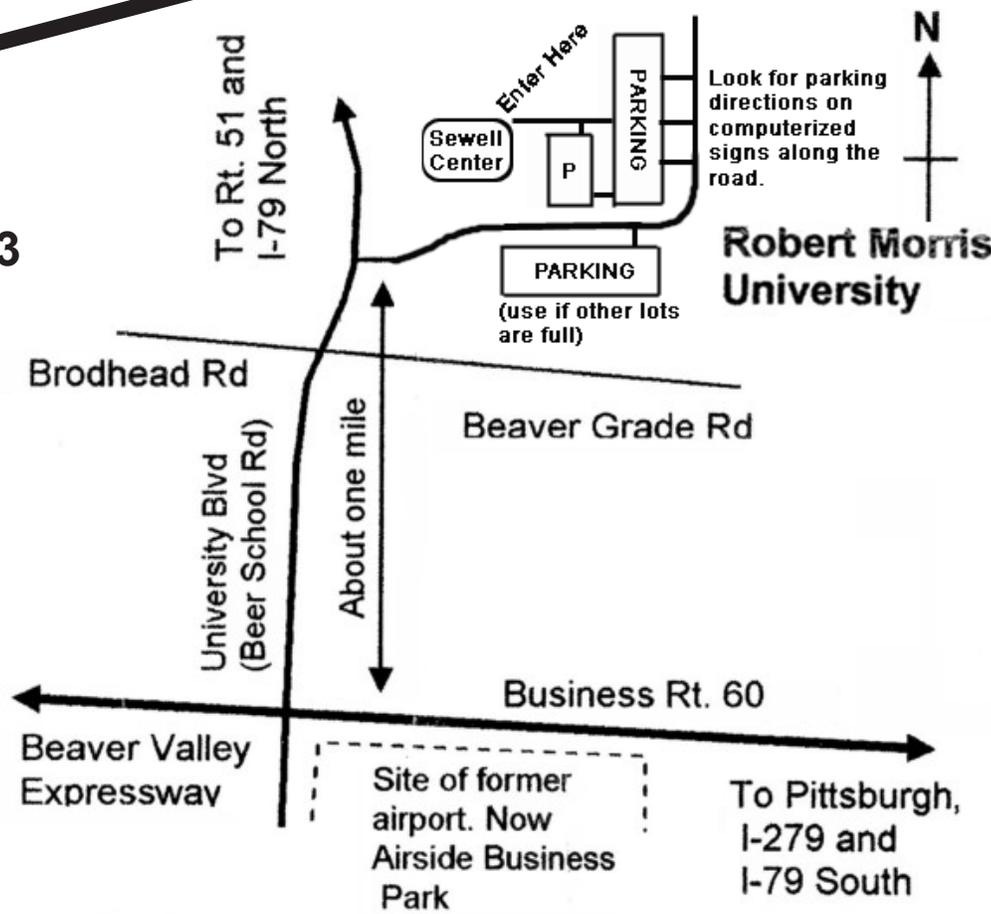
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MAP TO THE MARCH 17, 2013 MEETING



MAP TO THE APRIL 27, 2013 JAMBOREE





2013 PITTSBURGH MODEL RAILROAD JAMBOREE

ENJOY A FULL DAY OF MODEL RAILROAD ACTIVITIES!

**Saturday April 27, 2013
Sewall Center
Robert Morris University
Moon Campus**

**OPEN TO EVERYONE!
Registration opens at 8:00 a.m.
Activities run all day!**

**Modeling Clinics
Model Contests
Door Prizes & Raffles
Modular Layouts
White Elephant Tables
Sunday Layout Tours**

Clinics run all day on a variety of topics - model railroading, scenery building, detailing rolling stock, prototype railroading and local history!

REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE!

General information and questions: 412-276-6006 or e-mail: clyclsscs@aol.com. Registration questions should be directed to registrar shown below.

Register early to guarantee meal availability
Very limited space is available at the door
NO banquet reservations will be taken after April 15th!

Registration information will be distributed upon arrival April 27th.
No confirmations will be mailed.

Payment **MUST** be by cash or check. We cannot accept CREDIT or DEBIT cards.

Program subject to change without notice.

Full refunds given two weeks prior to event. No refunds for no-shows.

Registration includes buffet lunch & continental breakfast!

**Check our website for list of clinics, program schedule, contest rules and latest information!
www.keystonedivision.org**

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ ZIP _____ Primary Scale _____
 Phone _____ Cell _____
 E-mail _____
 NMRA Member # _____

Make checks payable to: Division Two, MCR, NMRA

Jamboree Registration Fee Per Person - Includes lunch & continental breakfast.

NMRA Members BEFORE APRIL 15th	\$22.00 x _____ = _____
Non-NMRA Member BEFORE APRIL 15th	\$32.00 x _____ = _____
Children under 12	\$11.00 x _____ = _____
Banquet (not included with registration)	\$25.00 x _____ = _____
Add \$5 after April 15th	\$5.00 x _____ = _____

Mail to: TOTAL _____

NMRA Jamboree, c/o Tom Gaus
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 Ph (412) 731-8846



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NEXT MEETING:
 March 17, 2013
 McKeesport Model RR Club
 McKeesport, 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>Visitors Welcome MEMBERSHIP OPEN</p> <p>2209 Walnut Street McKeesport, PA Open Wednesday & Friday Evenings</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>INC.</p>
<p>All aspects of "S":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scale • Narrow Gauge • Hirail • American Flyer <p>Monthly meetings Two portable layouts Membership open Contact: Jon Knox 724-287-6829</p> 	<p>BEAVER COUNTY MODEL RAILROAD and HISTORICAL SOCIETY</p> <p>416 6th St. Monaca, PA 15061</p>  <p>Visitors Welcome</p> <p>Worknights: Tuesdays 7:30 www.bcmrr.railfan.net</p>