

May 2013



Vol. 55, Issue 5

THE *Keystone Flyer*

MCR
Div. 2



Editor's Model of the Month by Den Lippert

Division Meeting Schedule

May 19 - Altoona Association of Model Railroaders, 2930 S. 10th Ave, Altoona, PA 16601, in conjunction with Susquehanna Division, NMRA Eastern Region.

Program: 2 mini-clinics 10:15 - Noon

Lunch: On Your Own

Meeting: 2:00 PM

Layout in Ebensburg, PA open following the meeting.

Map & directions available at meeting.

June 23 - PA Trolley Museum, 1 Museum Rd, Washington, PA 15301

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

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From the Super's Desk

A Jamboree Appreciation

After months of planning, work, and maybe a little worry—Will the clinicians get their information in? Will they show up? Will Charlie Getz experience flight delays and miss the Jamboree?—the model railroad jamboree is now history.

How should we measure success? The number of smiles on faces? (I didn't see any frowns.) The amount of money our division makes? Attendance by members of other divisions and even other regions? Total attendance? Number of new members signing up? Number of high-quality contest entries? Crowded clinic rooms?

By any measure, the Jamboree was a success. If you're interested in counts, the registration number was just under 150 Division 2 members, their guests, and non-NMRA members, most of whom signed up for free membership. I checked Keystone Flyer issues back to the late 1990's, and this appears to have been the most attended Jamboree in the

Did we make money? Frankly I don't know right now, and we won't know until all the bills are paid. In truth, we hold the Jamboree as a benefit for belonging to the NMRA and while your division officers aim to be prudent with the assets, we try to come close to breaking even. Usually the account is a little pink in the end. We can relax our need to put the jamboree in the black because of money made through the company store, our profits each time we've hosted a regional or national convention, and even the pass-the-hat at each meeting.

I would measure success by the more intangible criteria such as smiles, crowded clinic rooms, and general sense of satisfaction.

Of course we owe the success of the event to the organizing committee: Jim Sacco, Grier Kuehn, and Gary Carmichael; and the people who helped them: Marge Meehan and Don Austel on raffles; Tom Gaus, registrar; Vagel Keller, layout open house coordination & maps; Paul Gallick, model contest; the Free-Mo group for the white elephant table; Monica Yurkowski, fifty-fifty; and all this who helped set up things, stuff registration envelopes and do badges. Jerry Kyslinger stepped in to do the Company Store and I saw a couple of people assist him. Susan Werner signed up new members. Several people helped at the registration desk.

I did my best to foul things up by moving the business meeting from the banquet to lunch at the last minute, introducing people by the wrong name, and not following Jim Sacco's script. I appreciate the flexibility showed by our jamboree organizers.

The contest models seemed particularly impressive this year; I liked the winners and runners-up in all categories. They represented a lot of scratch-building, kit-bashing, and skillful weathering. Some years have seen more models brought in, but I don't think the quality has ever been higher.

I'd like to extend a thank you to all the organizers, helpers, and attendees. We're already working on next year's jamboree.

... Mike Hohn

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

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

Asst. Superintendent, Meetings & Programs

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

Achievement Program

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

Loren McCullough
(724) 379-8596
lorenmcc@verizon.net

Webmaster & Membership

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

Education Chair

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

Clerk

Dennis Lippert
724-601-1417
denlippert@comcast.net

Treasurer

Carl Volkwein
(724) 941-6954

Company Store

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

Bring'n'Brag

Paul Gallick
p.gallick@gmail.com

Module Committee

Bob Meier
SD45Bob@aol.com

Editor

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

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by our Superintendent, Michael Hohn, at 12:58 PM.

A round of thanks was given to the Jamboree committee (Jim Sacco, Grier Kuehn, and Gary Carmichaels), and everyone who contributed to the event. Many were thanked individually by Mr. Hohn, including Tom Gaus, who was the registrar for the event, but was unable to attend due to illness. It was announced that we officially had 147 attendees.

Our invited Guest Speaker, Charlie Getz, NMRA National President, was recognized as well.

Paul Gallick, as chairman of the Model of the Month contest, presented the 2012 Modeler of the Year award to Steve Ross. Congratulations, Steve!

Mike then took a moment to thank a long list of the folks who make Division Two work. The officers and committee chairs, and a few other notables were recognized individually.

Next month's meeting will be May 19th in ALTOONA, as an all-day event co-sponsored with the Susquehanna

Region. There will be an admission charge of \$8.32 to the Railroaders Museum, which also gets you into the Horseshoe Curve visitors center.

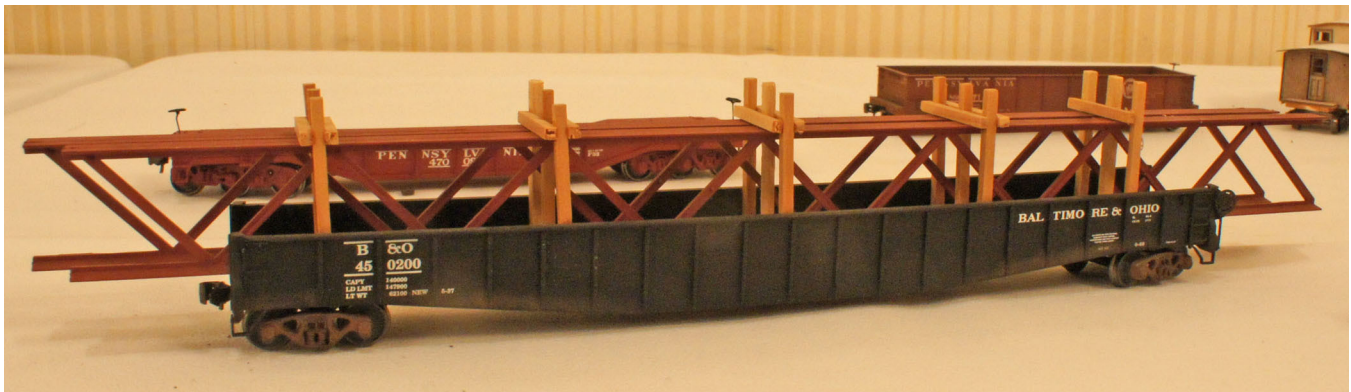
Mike made note that the Division had written the check to the NMRA Diamond Club in honor of John Roberts, as discussed at the April meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bob Meier made note of the ongoing White Elephant Sale at the Jamboree.

We then watched a presentation by Jerry Krueger on the 2014 NMRA National Convention, to be held in downtown Cleveland at their new (not yet opened!) convention center. Looks like a great program! July 13-19, 2014. Mark it on your calendar!

With no other business to transact, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM.



John Gallagher displayed these HO scale gondolas with open loads typical of the steel industry that he models so well in the model room at the Railroad Prototype Modelers meet in Greensburg last month.



Wages Increased on the Huntingdon Northern

by I. C. Dimmley

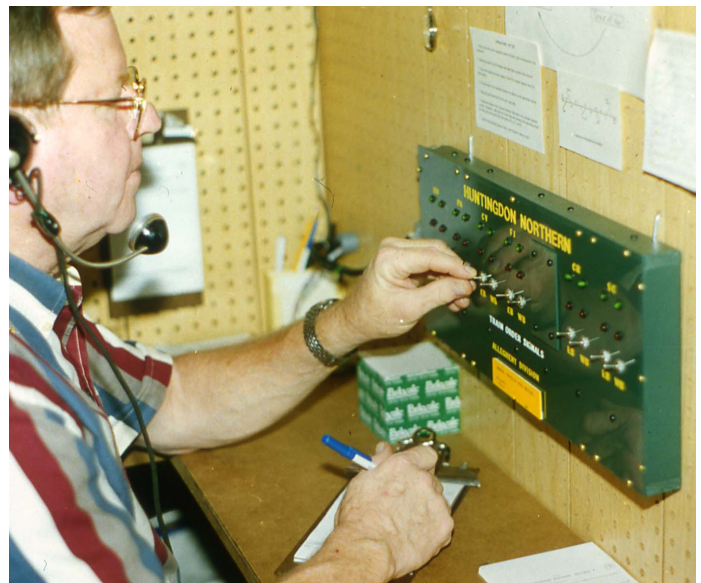
Employees on the Huntingdon Northern Railway (see Pike Ad, p. 5) saw a modest increase in their wages last September, which surprised many members of the Brotherhood of Model Locomotive Engineers (BMLE), Local No. 2. Management has consistently maintained that economic conditions and the increased costs of operating steam locomotives prevented the company from paying their employees more.

In other news, tensions seemed to be building between the train order operators and the train crews represented by BMLE Local 2. The Huntingdon Northern is one of only two unionized model railroads in Western Pennsylvania; the other road is the West Virginia Central & Pittsburg. (Both are Keystone Flyer patrons. ED.)

The operators who man the train-order offices along the line were notified that, effective immediately, train orders dictated by the Dispatcher must be copied in full without abbreviations for the town's names. The ICC recently cited the railroad for not enforcing the Standard Code of Operating Rules adopted in March 1949. The train order operators wanted the union to file a grievance on their behalf but were denied by the "Brotherhood," because the operators are considered salary workers and don't pay union dues, so they are not part of the "Rank-and-File."

The operators gained little support from the union because the crews blame the operators with careless practices that put their lives in jeopardy. It was reported that engineers, L. E. Kline and E. E. Maier, almost collided near Laurel Jct. because the wait order on Extra 2132 West, copied by Operator D. E. Baker and delivered to Extra 2179 East

at Chestnut Ridge, was ignored because Engineer Kline claimed it was unreadable. Still visibly shaken, Kline was seen clutching order No. 13, dated September 19, to prove his innocence if there is a disciplinary hearing. Engineer Maier said, "There definitely would have been a collision if I was paid by the run instead of by-the-hour!" An unnamed operator called the union members "a bunch of blankety-blank cowards!" Furthermore, "it ain't surprising" that train orders are sometimes illegible, given that operators are often confined to a stuffy closet under the stairs at the HNRy headquarters, dubbed "the hole" by some.



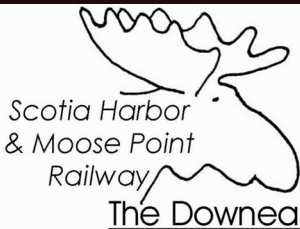
Operator K. Miller, now retired, was photographed taking down a train order at his desk in "the hole" during the early years of train order operations on the Huntingdon Northern.



A disastrous wreck like this one on the HNRy that occurred near Coal Valley several years ago was narrowly avoided last September for reasons management won't divulge.

R. J. Prehoda, Director of Operations, assured the union members that management would "look the other way" when engineers copied their own orders at Summit, and Laurel and Hickory Junctions as long as there were no wrecks or fatalities. "Railroading is a dangerous business and we must ensure the safety of equipment and personnel," said Prehoda. He also stated that he couldn't "look the other way" for the operators because of the ICC's involvement. "The government is getting much too big and powerful," sighed Prehoda.

Self-motivated, ambitious, dependable and energetic applicants seeking employment on the Huntingdon Northern may send their resumes to the Director of Operations.



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& Moose Point
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The Downeast Route

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

Cumberland and Lake Erie Railroad



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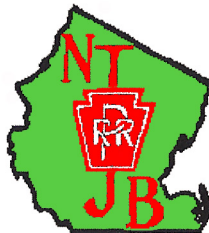
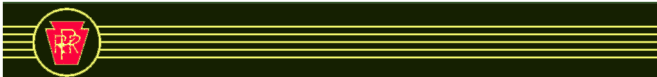
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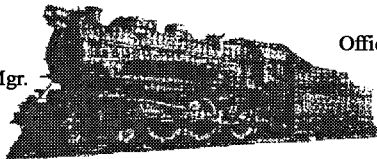


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Pittsburgh, PA
EMAIL: wvho@aol.com

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Jamboree Raffle Yields More Than Twelve Hundred Bucks

Marge Meehan reports that the net profit from the Jamboree Raffle was \$1,233.56. Division 2 thanks all those who donated merchandise worth a total of nearly \$3,700.00 for this fund raiser.



The Company Store is taking orders for

Norfolk Southern Heritage Fleet

The 80 page, hard cover book contains a selective look at some of the units from their debut in Spencer, NC last July to action photos taken as recently as March 2013. The selection of roster and action photos is **presented in an all color, horizontal format** and is on target for delivery the third week of June.

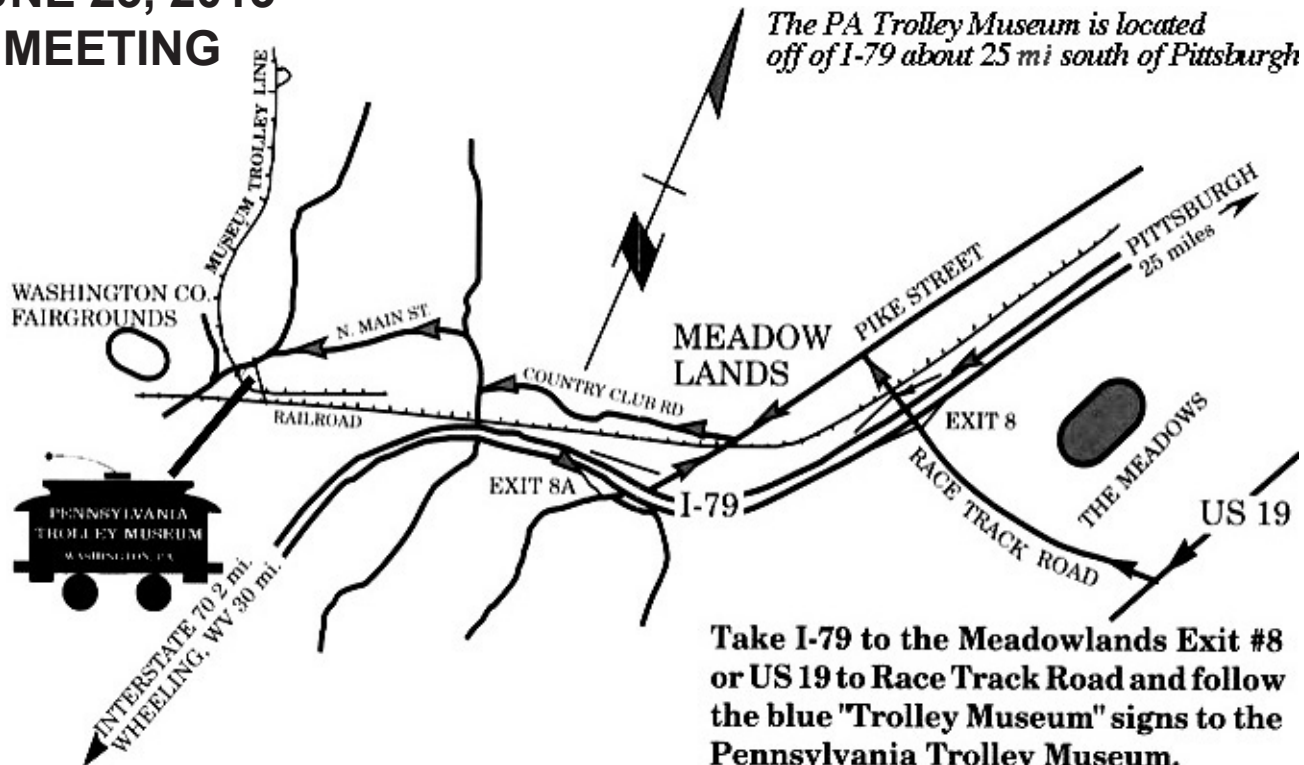
Modestly priced at \$29.95 (minus NMRA member discount)

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

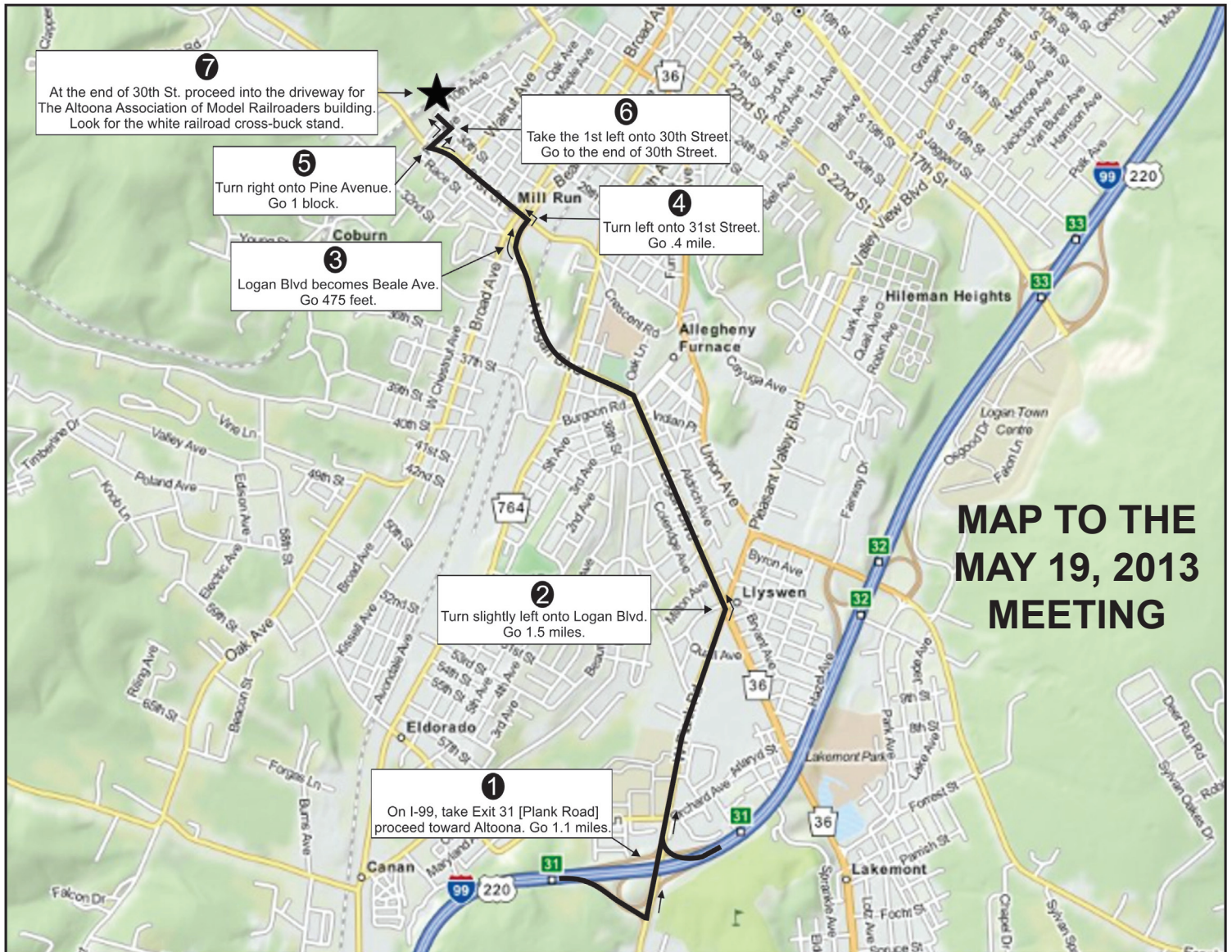


Brian Budeit, whose layout some of you visited on the Jamboree layout tour, kitbashed this little gem in HO_{N3} - by the way, *IT RUNS!!!*

MAP TO THE JUNE 23, 2013 MEETING



Phone: (724) 228-9256



MAP TO THE MAY 19, 2013 MEETING

**DIRECTIONS TO ALTOONA
MODEL RAILROADERS DAY EVENT
MAY 19, 2013
2930 South 10th Ave, Altoona PA 16601**

Traveling to Altoona from the North via I-99:
Follow I-99 South, take Exit 31 on right, and turn right onto Plank Road. Then follow map.

Traveling to Altoona from the South via I-99:
Follow I-99 North, take I-99 Exit 31 on right, and turn left at the traffic light onto Plank Road. Then follow map.

Traveling to Altoona from the West via US 22:
Follow US 22 East, exit left (A LEFT EXIT) onto I-99 North, take I-99 Exit 31 on right, and turn left at the traffic light onto Plank Road. Then follow map.



For Directions Assistance -
call Forrest Lucas at 814-243-0457

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NEXT MEETING:

May 19, 2013
 Altoona Association of Model Railroaders
 Altoona, 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>