

April 2014



Vol. 56, Issue 4

THE *Keystone Flyer*

MCR
Div. 2



Editor's Model of the Month from Mid-West Narrow Gauge Meet

Division Meeting Schedule

Saturday, April 26 - JAMBOREE

Sewell Center, Robert Morris University Moon Campus,
6001 University Blvd, Moon, PA 15108. Registration
open at 8:00 AM

May 18, 2014 - Scenic Express, 175 Sheffield Dr, #100,
Delmont, PA 15626

June 15, 2014 - Esther's Hobby Shop, Millvale, PA
(note: subject to change due to Fathers Day)

Bring'n'Brag

Jan	Anything Goes
Feb	Covered Hopper Cars
Mar	Switchers & Critters
May	Farm Structures
Jun	Passenger Head End Equip.
Aug	Cabooses
Sep	Lumber & Logging Ind.
Oct	Advertising & Signs
Nov	Works-in-Progress

**Mark your calendars now
for the 2014 Jamboree!
Saturday April 26th
(or go out and buy a new calendar
so that you can mark it)**

Submission Deadline for the May Flyer:

May 2, 2014

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



From the Super's Desk

About Those Reefers

A visitor to my home layout last month commented: it looks very artistic. This struck a chord. I attempt to portray a particular place at a specific time as accurately as I can in scenery, structures, rolling stock, and locomotives, but final decisions

rest on the impression I am trying to evoke in the observer.

Railroad modelers continually make decisions on such things as scenery, backdrop, and structure colors, even when prototype information is available. Equipment paint can pose issues: what color is Brunswick Green really? Did the Pennsy actually paint boxcars that garish shade of orange? How much weathering should be applied? Should I tag modern boxcars? (And if I do, is it a tacit approval of vandalism?) Should I adjust colors to make them photograph better, such as painting steam power gray rather than black, or to represent the effects of scale distance? These are all matters of debate among serious—some might

say Too Serious—hobbyists

Imagine the issues that modelers of early railroading face. Working from black and white photos provides some help in selecting structure and rolling stock paint, but consider this: some old photography methods made yellow look dark, and blue very light. One debate a couple of years ago among members of an online forum was the order of the red, white, and blue stripes along the lower edge of Merchants Despatch reefers and box cars. Which color stripe was on top, red or blue? Photos didn't help much.

Every layout builder must decide on a level of adherence to the prototype. We can build scenes that portray actual locations with buildings, track, rolling stock that agree with photographs and other documentation. Yet, every layout of reasonable size must either have track that curves in the corners of a room or around the ends of peninsulas. We must decide where follow the prototype and where to put those necessary curves.

There is very little documentation on freight car colors beyond a couple of late 19th century color samples, and a few plans and contemporary observations. I elected to paint all my equipment a shade of boxcar red (also called brown), using the same commercially-available color on all equipment of a given prototype railroad, unless I have information to the contrary. For instance, I have been using Floquil's boxcar red for early PRR equipment; of course, I am going to have a problem with these paints now being discontinued. Scalecoat has three shades of "BCR," one that I use for Lehigh Valley equipment.

What about those LV reefers in that peculiar shade of green? An account in the late 1800's described these cars as being painted in "lime green," so I picked up a spray can at the local Michael's. If I didn't want some diversity of car types, I might have elected not to have any LV reefers at all, simply because of the color. But, by the time I add a Grand Trunk car in a shade of yellow, and some LV heater cars in "straw yellow" (they had stoves to keep perishables from freezing in winter months), maybe the reefers will blend in.

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

Keith DeVault

Meeting called to order at 2:30 by Superintendent Mike Hohn with 51 members and guests

Recognition of Host by Gary Deavers, President of the Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society, thanking everyone for traveling to Morgantown for this meeting

Pass the hat was started

New Members and Guests with Randy Hague and another guest Diane with Jerry Kyslinger

Announcement made about the sickness of Joe Lofland, please keep him in your prayers and we found out later that he passed away. Our heartfelt sympathy to the family.

Minutes that were published in the Keystone Flyer were approved as published

Committee Reports:

Welcome Committee by Susan Werner, please get a name badge and introduce yourselves to other members

Achievement Committee by Dennis Vaccaro-No report
Video Library-Bud Brock absent, but Kent Miller will take anything back to the Library

Bring N Brag by Paul Gallick; he has 6 entries on Switchers and Critters

Free Mo Committee by Bob Meier, trying to find space and help for the Greenberg July Show, which conflicts with the NMRA National Convention

Membership Report by Tom Gaus we have 238 members with 5 new ones last month

Company Store-Dick Flock, he has some calendars left, Temple Estate items for sale and lots of Railroad Books, so stop after the meeting

Programs by Assistant Superintendent Keith DeVault, the April meeting is our Jamboree at Robert Morris University on April 26th. The May meeting will be at Scenic Express in Delmont, Pa, June will be held at Esther's Hobby Shop in Millvale, Pa. August is our annual picnic in Leetsdale, Pa.

Financial Report by Carl Volkwein, we are solvent going into the Jamboree Venue

Old Business:

It was stated for the Jamboree that only Gary Carmichael, Grier Kuehn or Jim Sacco will be the only contact people to have contact with Robert Morris personnel about any changes.

We will have the Plasticville Contest, along with raffles and White Elephant and all day clinics.

Ken Hanawalt and Dennis Vaccaro presented the final design, with special thanks to Jim Sacco for the design. The order forms can be picked up after the meeting and ordered today for shirts or hats for the division, and the order form will be posted on the website.

Election ballots will be counted today by the election committee

New Business: None

For the Good of the division:

Bob Meier spoke on the free all day clinics on April 5th at Blue Ridge Summit, Pa in conjunction with the South Mountain Division of the NMRA. It starts at 9 and ends at 3.

Dick Flock spoke on a program coming up at the Westmoreland Historical Society Building on Vintage Vehicles

None other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.



Mike's "reefer madness" in living color.

"Super," cont'd ...

I do have a vision for my layout: a recreation of the down-to-earth, gritty business of railroading 130 years ago, when locomotives were black, most rolling stock brownish red, every dollar counted, and competition was stiff. Posed with a lack of accurate information, I fall back on this vision, as much artistic as fact-based. Every so often fact trumps artistry; that's why I have two reefers in a lurid shade of green. (ugh!)

... *Mike Hohn*

Bring'n'Brag

March's Bring 'n' Brag contest was held during the regular monthly meeting at the Mon Valley Rail Road Historical Society in Morgantown WV. The theme of this month's contest was "Switchers and Critters," and there were 6 entries.

First Place was won by Bob DiBenedetto for his pair of HO scale Athearn EMD switchers. Bob's entries received 8 of the 24 vote cast. He started with two Ready to Roll switchers lettered for LTEX and Conrail which he weathered with flat black and grey paints and added Kadee couplers.

Charlie Hallman won Second Place with 6 votes for his kitbashed Sn3 combination worktrain caboose/flatcar. He partially rebuilt the wooden details from the kit.

Dick Flock won Third Place with 5 votes received for his kitbashed AHM HO Scale caterpillar tractor. Dick replaced the cab with an Athearn freightliner cab and scratchbuilt the ends.

Other entries for this month's contest included:

Bob Hickman entered three HO scale switchers including two HO scale Bachmann GE 70 tonners lettered for the Southern Pacific and an Atlas HO Genset lettered for the Pacific Harbor Line.



Your editor found Dennis Vacarro's kit-bashed GE 44 Ton "critter," above, on the contest table at the Mid-West Narrow Gauge Show in Greenford, OH, held on the weekend following it's appearance in the Div. 2 Bring'n'Brag contest. At right, another kitbash project, this one in On30, on one of several excellent narrow gauge modular and switching layouts at the show.

PAUL GALLICK

Hans Werner entered a Fleischman HO scale German 2-6-0 and two baggage cars.

Dennis Vacarro entered an HO scale GE 44 ton centercab switcher kitbashed from a Model Engineering Works kit to match a prototype picture from the Morning Sun Critters Volume 4 book.

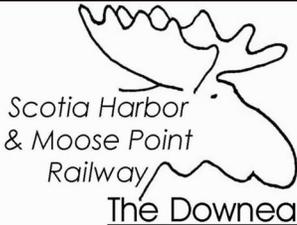
Thanks to everyone who brought in models and voted. The next contest will be at the May meeting where the category will be Farm Structures. Please remember to bring your models to the Jamboree in April. Contest categories at the Jamboree will include Motive Power, Rolling Stock, Structures, and a special category of 'What can you do with a Plasticville kit.'



Bring'n'Brag Standings:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>
Marge Meehan	11	Dennis Vaccaro	7
Hans Werner	11	Joel Everly	6
Bill DeFoe	10	Bob Hickman	6
Bob DiBenedetto	10	Steve Ross	4
Dom Candelore	7	Neal Schorr	4
Dick Flock	7	Susan Werner	4
Charlie Hallman	7		





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HO/HO3



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Vagel Keller, Gen'l. Manager
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Follow our construction progress online at:
http://www.railroad-line.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=22893



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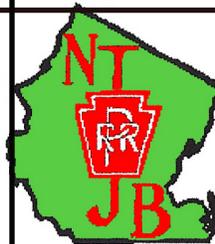
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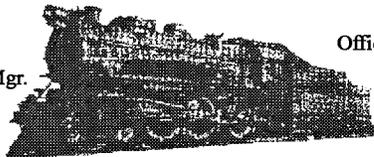
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HO Scale

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JAMBOREE MODELING CONTEST RULES RECAP: “WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A PLASTICVILLE KIT?”

The rules are simple and what the name of the contest says - what can you do with a Plasticville kit? You may do whatever you want with it in any scale. You can kitbash more than one together, just make one and detail it, weather it, etc. The only rule is that, in keeping with the theme, the bulk of your model must be made from a Plasticville kit (or parts from different Plasticville kits). We're not going to specify a certain percentage since that's impossible to determine accurately and we want this to be fun for everyone!

The winner will be decided by a popular vote of those in attendance. That means each person may vote on whatever appeals to them. There is no single basis for voting. Their vote maybe based on realism, ingenuity, humor, weathering, painting, etc. With that in mind, you can let your imagination run wild!

We will give one warning - Plasticville kits have appeared in a variety of packaging over the years. Some kits

have been made for many years while others have come and gone. Many only made brief appearances in the line before being discontinued. So if you are using one of the more obscure Plasticville kits, be sure that you have supporting evidence that it truly was sold under the Plasticville label. Many of our members have sharp eyes and will call you out if you can't prove it!

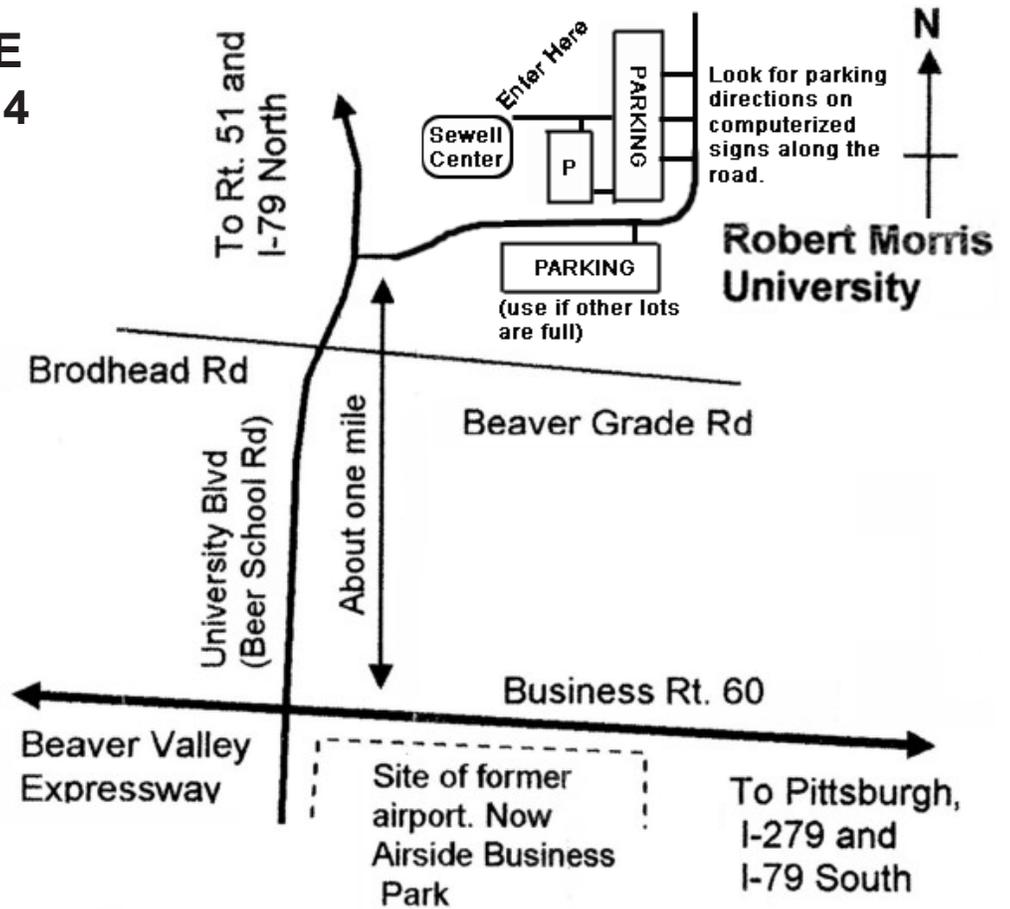


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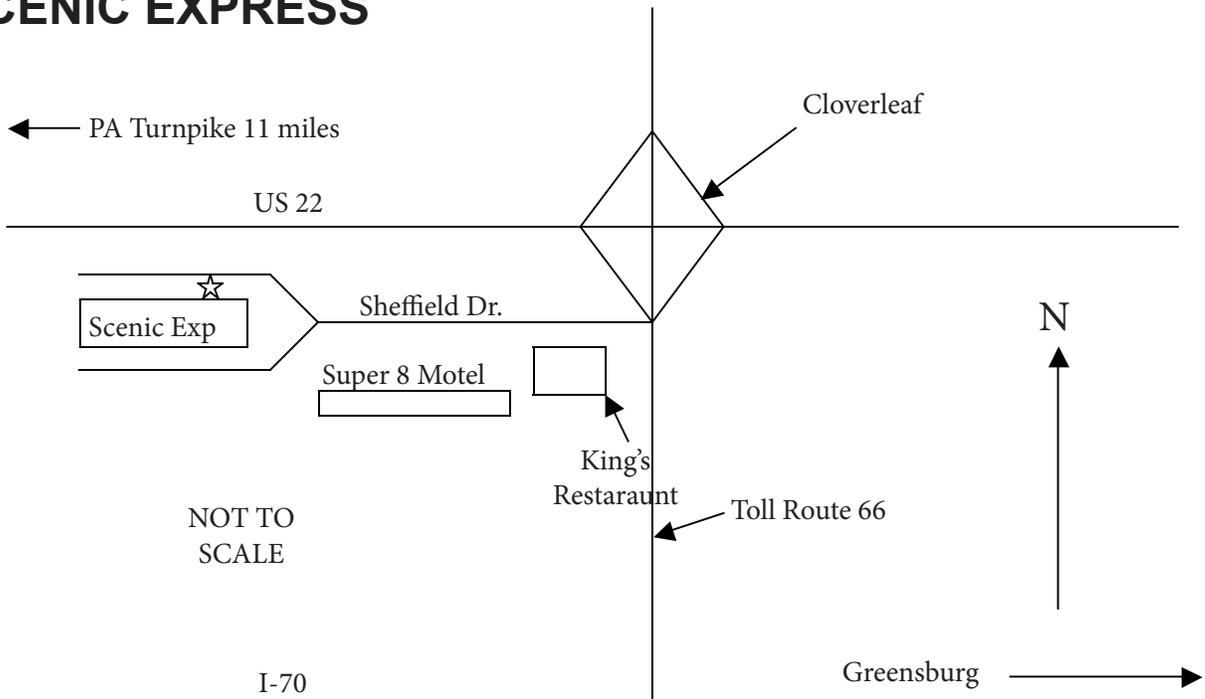
A wider perspective of the switching layout mentioned earlier.

MAP FOR THE APRIL 26, 2014 JAMBOREE



MAP TO THE MAY 18, 2014 MEETING AT SCENIC EXPRESS

Delmont is about 11 miles east of PA Turnpike (Monroeville). Sheffield Drive is at a traffic light just south of the 22-66 cloverleaf. Scenic Express is around the right side of the building called Sheffield Business Center.



The Keystone Flyer

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NEXT MEETING:
Saturday, April 26, 2014
JAMBOREE
Robert Morris University Sewell Center

<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>