

October 2014



Vol. 56, Issue 9

THE *Keystone Flyer*

MCR
Div. 2

Editor's Model of the Month by Mike Hohn



Division Meeting Schedule

October 19, 2014 - Norwin Public Library, 1 Caruthers Ln, Irwin, PA 15642

Layouts: Bob Prehoda open 11 - 2 & after mtg 'til 5;
Andy Blenko open 11 - 1 & after mtg 'til 5
Program: "The Trolleys of Irwin," by Andy Blenko

November 16, 2014 - New Eagle VFD, 156 Chess St, New Eagle, PA 15607

Layout: Mid-Mon Valley Model RR Club

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

Submission Deadline for the October Flyer:

October 24, 2014

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



From the Super's Desk

Craftsmanship

Watching me work on our layout, a member of our club asked: why was I taking so much care with a project that would eventually be hidden under scenery? My reply: I was afraid that if I let down in one area, it would be reflected in my

work on areas that do show.

Is this craftsmanship? Not really. We can define true craftsmanship as setting a goal and knowing how to achieve it. Probably the honest answer should have been: "I'm not sure where I'm going here."

Look at the back of any piece of case furniture such as a chest of drawers. No matter how fancy and high style the front and sides, the back is finished to a bare minimum, enough to hold everything together, but no carvings, sanding, or varnish. Craftsmanship goes into the parts that count.

Similarly, the pre-Civil War house in which I live--in fact most homes prior to the 20th Century--distinguish between purely family areas and the more public areas where we receive friends and entertain. Ornate fireplace mantels, window and doorway trim, furniture and decorative items occupy areas of the home more likely to be seen by the visitor. Of course the basement is completely utilitarian unless a model railroader lives in the house.

Allen McClelland has been credited with introducing the idea of "good enough" to model railroading. I'll bet some people thought or chose to think that this represents some kind of celebration of the mediocre, a turning away from the idea of quality in all things. Instead he recognized that planning, building, and running a layout requires so many tasks that the perfect layout will always elude us if we build everything to the same attention to detail and finish.

Doing more than running trains in circles has become integral to our hobby. Researching prototype construction and building models of railroad, residential, and industrial buildings has become an important component of our hobby -- similarly, locomotives and rolling stock, and perhaps road vehicles. Learning and implementing prototype-based operating schemes has taken off since primordial efforts decades ago.

And yet, we cannot do all things to the same level or equally to an advanced level, at least not if we are typical humans.

The real craftsman distinguishes what must be done from what is a waste of time and resources. Declaring "discretion is the better part of valor," Shakespeare's Falstaff picked his battles wisely, for his goal was to live another day. I pick my projects carefully so that I have a reasonably detailed, well-running layout that offers opportunities for interesting operations and allows me to display and run scratch-built and kit-built rolling stock. Oh, if I ever do scratch build that locomotive -- let's name it the "Chippendale" -- I will have a place to put it through its paces.

... 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>

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Minutes

JOHN GALLAGHER

The meeting was convened by Superintendent Hohn at 2:26 p.m. at the Greensburg Zion Lutheran Church.

The Superintendent thanked the church for hosting the meeting on short notice, when the Youngstown Club had to cancel out..

Several guests and one friend were recognized.

The minutes of the previous business meeting were discussed. The motion to accept the minutes as printed in the Flyer passed by unanimous voice vote.

Reports:

The Keystone Flyer Editor was not present so there was no report for the Keystone Flyer. [At meeting time, your editor was enjoying Jack on the Rocks while taking in the scenery of Toltec Gorge from the platform of the Parlor Car on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Rwy.]



Carl Volkwein, the Treasurer, was not present due to a cold. He reported through the Superintendent that we are well off financially. A copy of the figures from the Jamboree was circulated for the members present to review. Again, though not rich, we are solvent.

Assistant Superintendent Devault reported that October's meeting will be at the Norwin Public Library. November's meeting will be at the Mid-Mon Valley Club in New Eagle.

Dick Flock reported that the Company Store still has books in stock. If interested, see him at his home after the meeting. It was not worth dragging the books to the church, since his layout will be open after the meeting.

He also reminded members that it's time to think about ordering calendars for next year. He also thanked the Church for making their meeting space available on short notice. He pointed out that the short notice was the reason that his was the only local layout open for viewing.

Bring N' Brag. Logging and lumbering is the subject for this month. Please vote for your favorite. Paul also gave notice that he is retiring as head of the Bring ' Brag program and we'll need a replacement. Susan encouraged people to volunteer. Dennis pointed out that Achievement points can be acquired for volunteering.

Bob Meir, representing the Free-Mo people, reported that there isn't adequate space to set up the modules at the next Greenberg Show. There is enough space for two tables for the Division to recruit new members. This is also another opportunity to earn volunteer points. Bring something to work on as you talk to potential new members and other curious individuals.

The Video Library had no report.

Dennis Vacarro had no report for the Achievement Program except to remind members to volunteer to run the Bring N' Brag program.

Membership & Web Site Committees. Tom Gaus is looking for pictures from the Jamboree to post on our web site.

Old Business:

Jim Sacco reported that now that this year's Jamboree is over, it's time to start planning for next year's event. Planning is becoming more difficult as Robert Morris is continually reducing the number of available dates and raising the price. If you know of an adequate hall, please pass the information along to Jim Sacco, Gary Carmicheal or Grier Kuehn.

New Business - Unbelievably, there was no New Business.

For the Good of the Order:

We are looking for hobby shops that are interested in hosting a meeting ala Esther's in Millvale and Scenic Express.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.



Bring'n'Brag

PAUL GALLICK

September's Bring 'n' Brag contest was held during the regular monthly meeting at The Zion Lutheran Church in Greensburg, PA. The contest model theme this month was the Lumber and Logging Industry, and three entries were submitted.

Mike Hohn won First Place for his HO scale Logging Camp Model. Mike's model received 11 of the 26 votes cast. His model was built from a craftsman kit, which he had purchased sometime around the eighth grade. He must have used the right kind of glue since it looked like it had just recently been assembled.

Marge Meehan's models won Second Place after receiving 9 votes. Her models were of Cache Creek On30 disconnected logging cars, which she built from resin kits. She also included logs made from sticks cut from trees and shrubs out of her yard.

Bob DiBenedetto's HO scale Chessie System wood chip hoppers took Third Place, with 6 votes. He started with three Athearn Ready to Roll 40' wood chip hoppers which he weathered with paint and chaulks and replaced the couplers with Kadee's.

Neal Schorr brought in a copy of the November 2014 issue of Classic Toy Trains to display an article he had written and published on his O-scale layout. It will be on newsstands October 1, 2014.

Thanks to everyone who brought in models and voted. The next contest will be at the October meeting, and the model category is "Advertising and Signs."

Bring'n'Brag Standings:

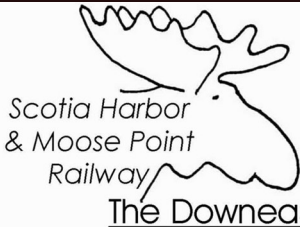
<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>
Bill DeFoe	26	Dom Candelore	7
Marge Meehan	21	Charlie Hallman	7
Bob DiBenedetto	19	Joel Everly	6
Hans Werner	13	Mike Hohn	6
Dennis Vaccaro	13	Less Lemley	6
Frank Benders	12	Harold Roth	6
Steve Ross	11	Keith Berkebile	5
Dick Flock	8	Neal Schorr	4
Bob Hickman	8	Bryce Walat	2
Susan Werner	8	Jerry Hallman	1



Marge Meehan's logging cars and Bob DiBenedetto's Chessie wood chip cars garnered 2nd and 3rd places, respectively, in the October B'n'B contest. Paul Gallick photos.



K36 487 ready for a 10:30 AM departure from Chama, NM, Sunday, September 21, 2014.



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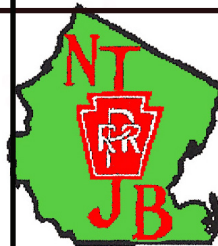
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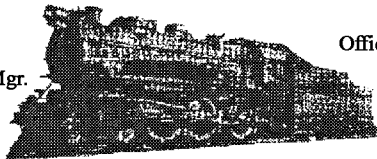


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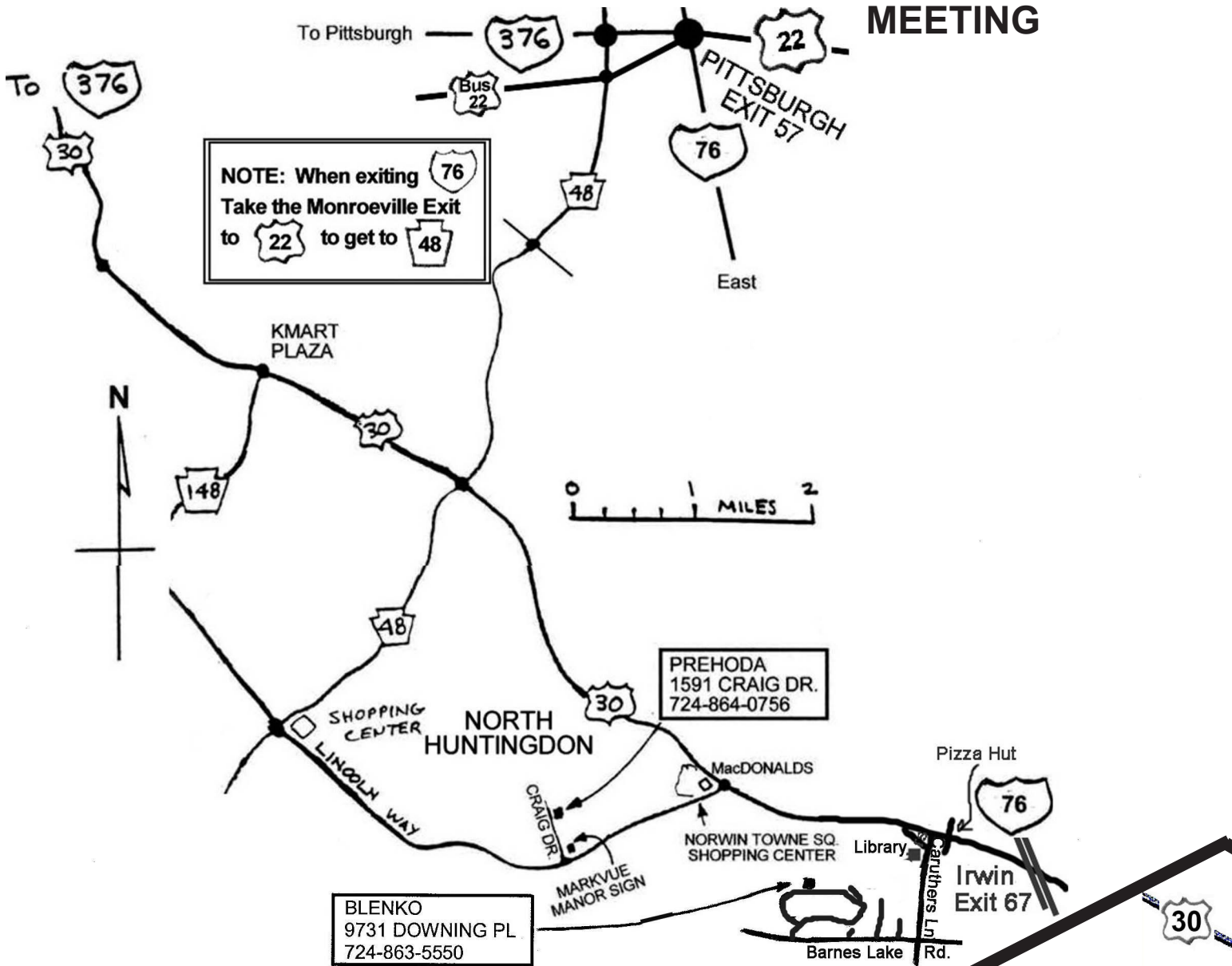
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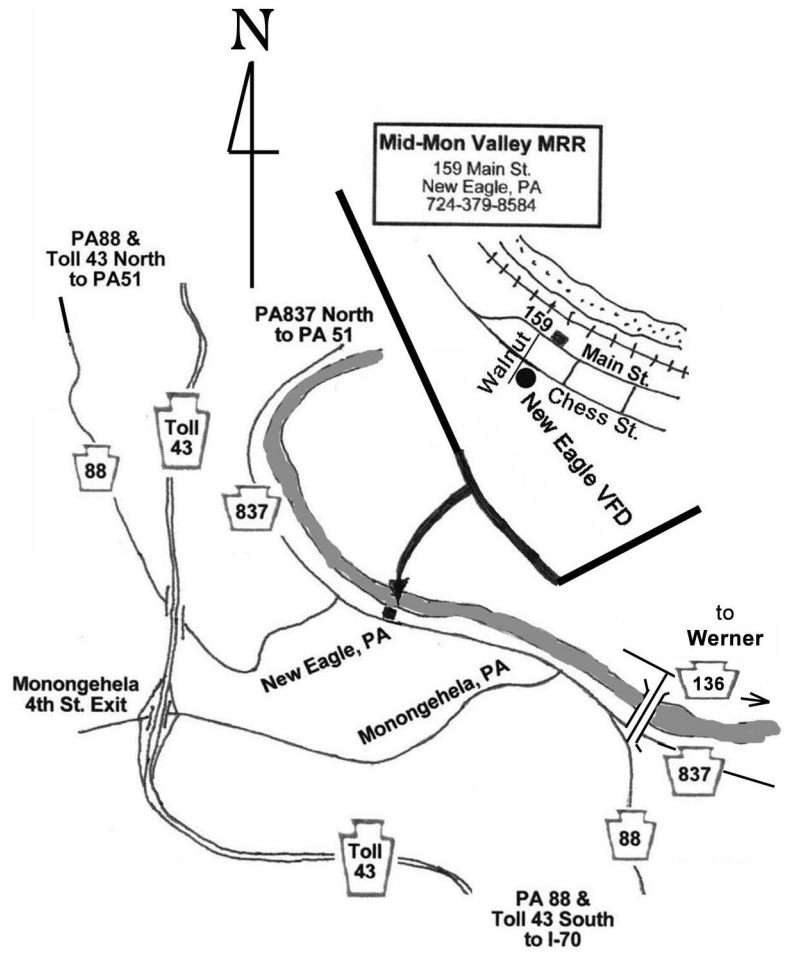
MAP TO THE OCTOBER 19, 2014 MEETING



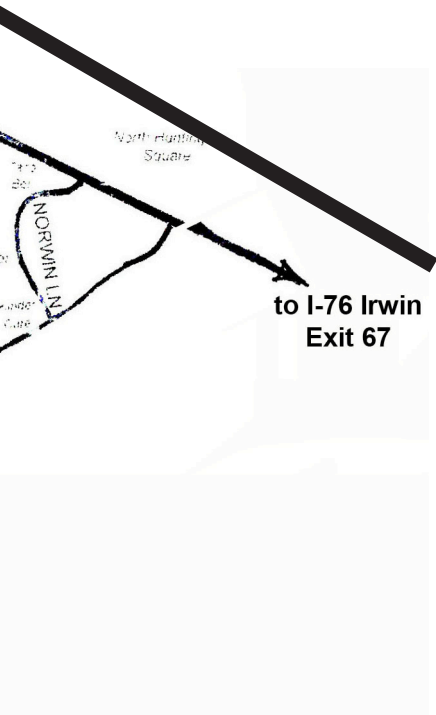
MAP TO THE NOVEMBER 16, 2014 MEETING



The view from the Parlor Car, pulling out of Chama, NM, Sunday morning, September 21, 2014.



110-year-old K27, 463, approaches the end of its run to Antonito, CO on the afternoon of Saturday, September 20, 2014.



The Keystone Flyer

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NEXT MEETING:
Sunday, October 19, 2014
Norwin Public Library
Irwin, 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> McKeesport™ MON-YOUGH VALLEY R.R. MODEL R.R. CLUB</p> <p>Visitors Welcome MEMBERSHIP OPEN</p> <p>2209 Walnut Street McKeesport, PA</p> <p>Open Wednesday & Friday Evenings</p>	<p> OHIO VALLEY LINES INC.</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>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</p> <p>Contact: Jon Knox 724-287-6829</p> 	<p> BEAVER COUNTY MODEL RAILROAD and HISTORICAL SOCIETY </p> <p>416 6th St. Monaca, PA 15061  Visitors Welcome</p> <p>Worknights: Tuesdays 7:30 www.bcmrr.railfan.net</p>