

November 2014



Vol. 56, Issue 10

THE *Keystone Flyer*

MCR
Div. 2



John Polyak photo

Editor's Model of the Month by Jerry Kyslinger

Division Meeting Schedule

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

Layouts: Ken Hanawalt, open Noon - 1:30 PM & after the meeting 'til 6 PM; Fred Abrew, open Noon - 2 PM; Mid-Mon Valley Model RR Club, open 1 - 2:15 PM (maps in this issue); Susan Werner open after the meeting (map available at meeting)

Program: "Trains I Have Seen Around the World," by Dennis Vaccaro

January 18, 2015 - Old Economy Village Visitors Center, 270 16th St, Ambridge, PA 15003

Layout: Ohio Valley Lines, 1231 Merchant St, Ambridge, PA 15003, open at 1:30 PM

Meeting at 2:30 PM

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 January 2015 Flyer:

December 19, 2014

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<http://www.keystonedivision.org>



From the Super's Desk

Holiday Reading

As cold weather closes in and festivities start, as we congratulate ourselves on all the outdoor jobs we completed the last six months of warm weather and long days, we also know it's time to do all that deferred maintenance

indoors, to repaint the bedroom, and to start preparing for the Christmas party. All that is going to take careful planning. So, I'll need to sit here a while to do all this hard work. First, perhaps a little planning on my railroad empire in the basement.

Let's face it, we all need a little down time; that's why winter was invented. And there is nothing like a good read to fill those moments of rest and reverie.

The classic read is a book. One that I enjoyed in the past year is entitled *Railroaded: The Trans-continentals and the Making of Modern America* by Richard White. Nominated for the Pulitzer Prize, the author recounts the transcontinental excitement that seemed to consume the

nation, financial shenanigans on Wall Street, corruption, bought politicians, and the economics of building what were more financial empires for the few and boondoggles for the many. It's not simply a history, and it does not have the well-worn tales of track laying races. Rather, the author studies the social and financial consequences of these railroads, developing the thesis that most of the transcontinental lines were bankrupt from the beginning with little value to the nation; a single track through the desert accomplished little economic good.

The modern read consists of filling snippets of time at home or the cafe, which calls for some web surfing. In past columns I've pointed out favorite sites, several created by current or past division members. I search out forums that have interesting discussion and debate, exhibit fine modeling, or provide useful history and data. Some inspire. Others inform.

The narrow-gauge community fits all criteria, but seems to particularly attract craftspeople. This group certainly puts me in the mood for detailed modeling. One site I discovered recently shows modeling in S scale modeling of 3 ft modeling out west (<http://coloradosouthern.blogspot>). Content includes old photos of narrow gauge scenes, model building, structures and towns, and methods such as 3-D printing.

I have written before about articles and ideas from the British model railroad press. I also check an online rail site from Britain that covers the full range of topics in prototype and modeling. Particularly intriguing, a forum on North American rails presents an overseas perspective with most of the participants living in England (<http://www.rmweb.co.uk/community/index.php?forum/155-usa-canadian-railroads/>). Ironically, there seems to be more interest in contemporary modeling than in our own country. A recent topic on one forum was Canadian National motive power passing through Fostoria, Ohio.

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

John Gallagher

The meeting was convened by Superintendent Hohn at 2:23 p.m. This month, we met at the Norwin Public Library. Supt. Hohn noted that this was the third year in a row that we were meeting at this location and thanked Andy Blanko for arranging the use of the location with our hosts.

No new members rose to be acknowledged. We did have two visitors from the Ligonier Model RR Club.

The minutes from the previous meeting, as published in the *Keystone Flyer*, were approved by acclamation.

The Editor of the *Keystone Flyer* was not present, so there was no report.

The Treasurer reported that our bank balance is a little lower than usual because we paid to publish the *Keystone Flyer* and paid the last of the picnic expenses. However, we are still very solvent.

Programs - The November meeting will be at the New Eagle Fire Hall in New Eagle, Pa., of all places. Susan Werner and Dennis Vaccaro's layouts will be open for inspection. Dennis warned that his has not advanced much beyond the lumber and track stage. The January meeting will be hosted by the Ohio Valley Lines at Old Economy's meeting room, as has become their custom. The Ohio Valley Lines model railroads will be open before and after the meeting as well. We will visit the Gibsonia organization in February as we have in past years.

Company Store - Dick Flock reported that he has items from two different estate sales for sale. Prices are very negotiable so Dick can unload these "treasures" and not have to schlep them around each month. He also has a large complement of books from the Company Store. Again, the more you buy, the less strain there will be on his back. If you would like him to order any books, please let him know quickly, so he can lump them into one large order instead of nickel and diming the publisher.

Membership/ Website - Tom Gaus reported that our membership is down slightly. He is also looking for more pictures from the Jamboree to post to the web site. Further, he commented on an article by Charlie Goetz the NMRA President, on why we should focus our recruiting efforts on people in their 50s'. Due to space constraints, there is no room to set up our modules at the upcoming Greenburg show. We will have enough room for two tables from which to conduct our recruiting efforts. He is looking for volunteers to help at the tables.

Free-Mo Modules - Bob Meir was not present so there was no report on modular activities. Bob will be retiring and moving out of the area, so he is looking for a volunteer to lead the modular group.

Bring N' Brag - There were only four entries for advertising and signage. Please vote.

Video Library - It was reported that a laptop has been donated to the video library. Members can now preview CDs and DVDs before taking them home. This month's video bargain is "rent one video and get one free"

Achievement Program - Dennis Vaccaro reported that submissions for awards seem to be delayed by peoples' unfounded fear of how much paperwork the process requires. He also pointed out that he brought some samples that had won awards and needed very little paperwork.

The Welcoming Committee was not welcoming anyone.

Old Business

The program for November is still a work in progress. November is also the last opportunity to acquire Bring N' Brag points for this calendar year. Please bring models to enter.

New Business

Grier Kuehn reported that the Jamboree Committee is still looking for clinicians. Their goal is to present clinics with "new faces and new topics". Further, remember to push Jamboree attendance at your Christmas shows.

For the Good of the Order

We still have Division Tee shirts and hats in stock at reasonable prices. We can even order more if we don't have your size in stock.

Mike Hohn gave a short report from the Region Board of Directors and encouraged attendance at regional conventions.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.



... "Super"

My favorite of the North American discussion sites is Railroad-Line Forums (<http://www.railroad-line.com>). Again, a wide range of topics organized into logical groups, including the one that most interests me on early railroading and models. A lot of information is exchanged as well as photos of work in progress, the subject of this month's Bring 'n' Brag.

I hope to see you at the November meeting, but just in case, let me wish everybody a happy, relaxed holiday season, full of reading and perhaps a little progress on a project or two. And remember, expressing thanks and gratitude is never bad manners.

... *Mike Hohn*

Bring'n'Brag

October's Bring 'n' Brag contest was held at The Norwin Public Library in Irwin, PA. The theme of this month's contest was 'Advertising & Signs,' and there were four contest entries.

First Place went to Marge Meehan for her collection of N and O scale Billboards, and N scale TV Transmitter towers. Marge's models received 16 of the 28 votes cast. Her models were assembled from Blair Line kits and mounted on a small diorama.

Bill DeFoe won Second Place with 10 votes for his HO scale Cinder Valley Terminal building. His model was kitbashed from six City Classics building fronts. He printed the lower front sign above the main entrance on his computer. Other signs and heralds are taken from dry transfers. He also mounted an electronic billboard on the roof.

Third Place voting resulted in a tie between Steve Ross and Dennis Vaccaro. Steve entered a collection of Phoebe Snow postcards and a PowerPoint presentation showing the young lady and verses touting the many advantages of clean burning anthracite coal. Dennis entered an actual brochure from ALCO showing their USRA standard locomotives.

In the 'For Display Only' category there were three items this month. Jerry Kyslinger brought in an HO scale laser cut wood kit, which he had built and stained rather than painted. John Polyak brought in

Paul Gallick

an HO scale Broadway Limited PRR H10 2-8-0. Finally Dennis Vaccaro brought in two small kitbashed steam locomotives, which he has entered in numerous contests, and received a number of awards with. He also included the paperwork he submitted to the NMRA for Merit Contest Entries as examples of the amount of effort required.

Thanks to everyone who brought in models and voted. November's Bring n' Brag contest category will be "Works-in-Progress," and will be held at the next meeting in New Eagle, PA. Surely most of us have something that fits this category!

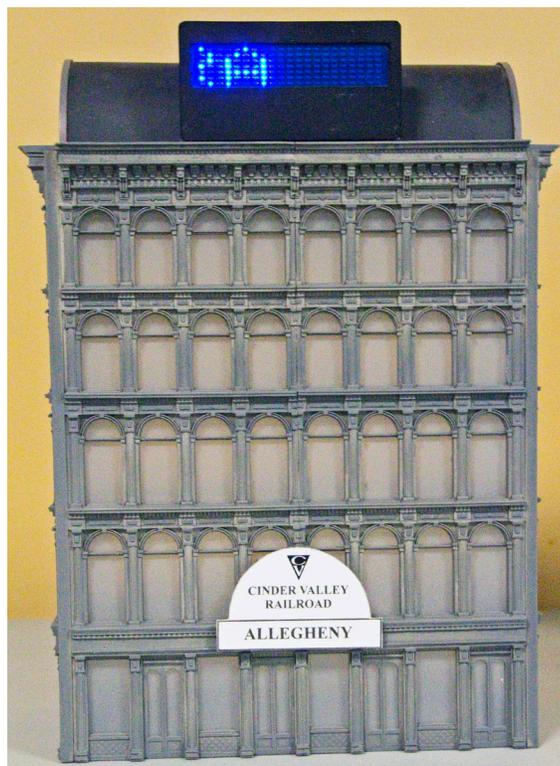
Bring'n'Brag Standings:

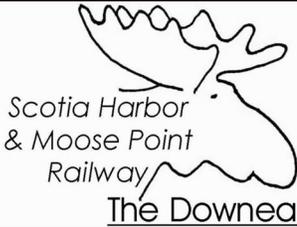


Name	Points	Name	Points
Bill DeFoe	32	Dom Candelore	7
Marge Meehan	27	Charlie Hallman	7
Bob DiBenedetto	19	Joel Everly	6
Dennis Vaccaro	17	Mike Hohn	6
Steve Ross	15	Less Lemley	6
Hans Werner	13	Harold Roth	6
Frank Benders	12	Keith Berkebile	5
Dick Flock	8	Neal Schorr	4
Bob Hickman	8	Bryce Walat	2
Susan Werner	8	Jerry Hallman	1



Marge Meehan's "bunch'o'signs" display, left, and Bill DeFoe's venerable old building with digital rooftop sign, right, won first and second place, respectively, in the November B'n'B contest. They are also outstanding examples of the kind of architectural vandalism and suburban commercial blight that currently plagues downtown Pittsburgh and its surroundings. Nice modeling, though. John Polyak photos.





Scotia Harbor
& Moose Point
Railway

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

Cumberland and Lake Erie Railroad



"The Laurel Ridge Route"

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

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Richard H. Flock, CEO

337 Elm Drive
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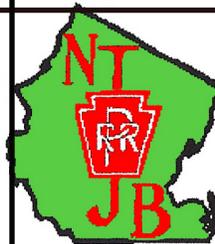
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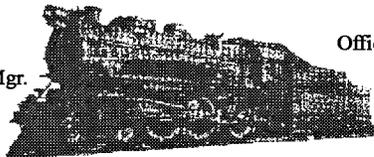


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HO Scale

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PUBLIC TIMETABLE

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSES

Gibsonia - Western PA Model RR Museum Holiday Train Display, 5507 Lakeside Dr, Gibsonia, PA 15044, Ph: (724) 444-6944; Website: <http://www.wpmrm.org>.
Dates & Times:

2014 - 2015 Holiday Display Hours

Date	Open	Close
SAT. NOV. 08	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. NOV. 09	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. NOV. 14	06:00 pm	09:00 pm
SAT. NOV. 15	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. NOV. 16	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. NOV. 21	6:00PM	09:00 pm
SAT. NOV. 22	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. NOV. 23	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. NOV. 28	11:00AM	09:00 pm
SAT. NOV.29	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. NOV.30	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. DEC. 05	06:00 pm	09:00 pm
SAT. DEC. 06	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. DEC. 07	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. DEC. 12	06:00 pm	09:00 pm
SAT. DEC. 13	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. DEC. 14	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. DEC. 19	06:00 pm	09:00 pm
SAT. DEC. 20	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. DEC. 21	11:00 am	05:00 pm
WED. DEC. 24	CLOSED	
THURS. DEC. 25	CLOSED	
FRI. DEC. 26	11:00 am	09:00 pm
SAT. DEC. 27	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. DEC. 28	11:00 am	05:00 pm
MON. DEC. 29	11:00 am	05:00 pm
TUES. DEC. 30	11:00 am	05:00 pm
WED. DEC. 31	11:00 am	05:00 pm
THURS. JAN. 01	CLOSED	
FRI. JAN. 02	11:00 am	09:00 pm
SAT. JAN. 03	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. JAN. 04	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. JAN. 09	06:00 pm	09:00 pm
SAT. JAN. 10	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. JAN. 11	11:00 am	05:00 pm

McKeesport - McKeesport Model Railroad Club Holiday Open House, 2209 Walnut St., McKeesport, PA 15132; Ph: (412) 672-4490. Dates & Times:

Fridays		Saturdays	
12/5	7 - 10 PM	12/6	1 - 8 PM
12/12	7 - 10 PM	12/13	1 - 8 PM
12/26	5 - 10 PM	12/20	1 - 8 PM
1/2	5 - 10 PM	12/27	1 - 8 PM
		1/3	1 - 8 PM

Sundays 12/7 & 12/14, 1 - 6 PM
12/21, 1 - 8 PM

Admission: 18 & over, \$3; 5 - 17, \$2; under 5 Free.

Ambridge - Ohio Valley Lines Miniature RR, Museum, and Library, 1225 Merchant St., Ambridge, PA 15003; Ph: (724) 266-4787 Dates & Times:

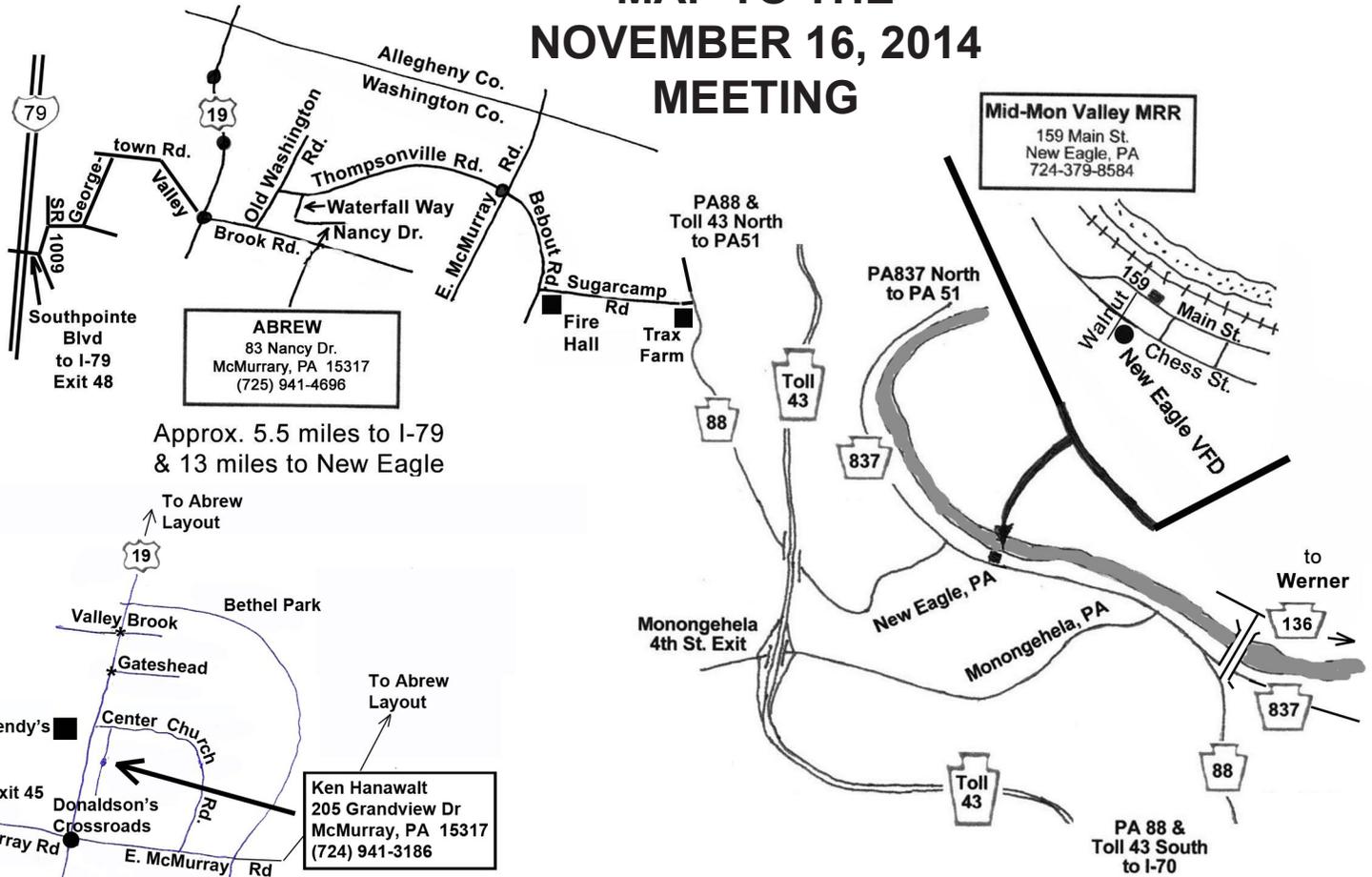
Saturdays		Sundays	
11/29	12 - 5 PM	11/30	12 - 5 PM
12/6	12 - 5 PM	12/13	12 - 5 PM
12/13	12 - 5 PM	12/20	12 - 5 PM
12/20	12 - 5 PM	12/27	12 - 5 PM
12/27	12 - 5 PM	12/28	12 - 5 PM
1/3	12 - 5 PM	1/4	12 - 5 PM

Admission: 13 & over, \$6; 3 - 12, \$2

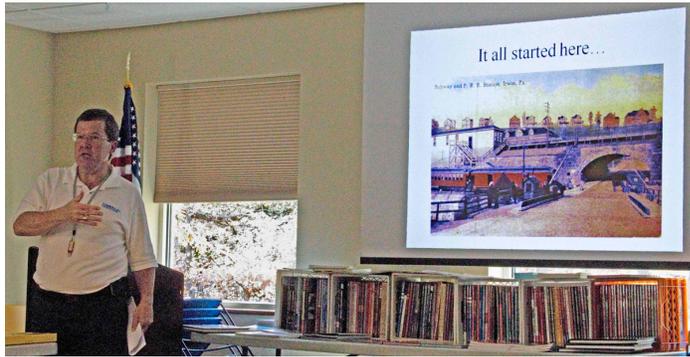
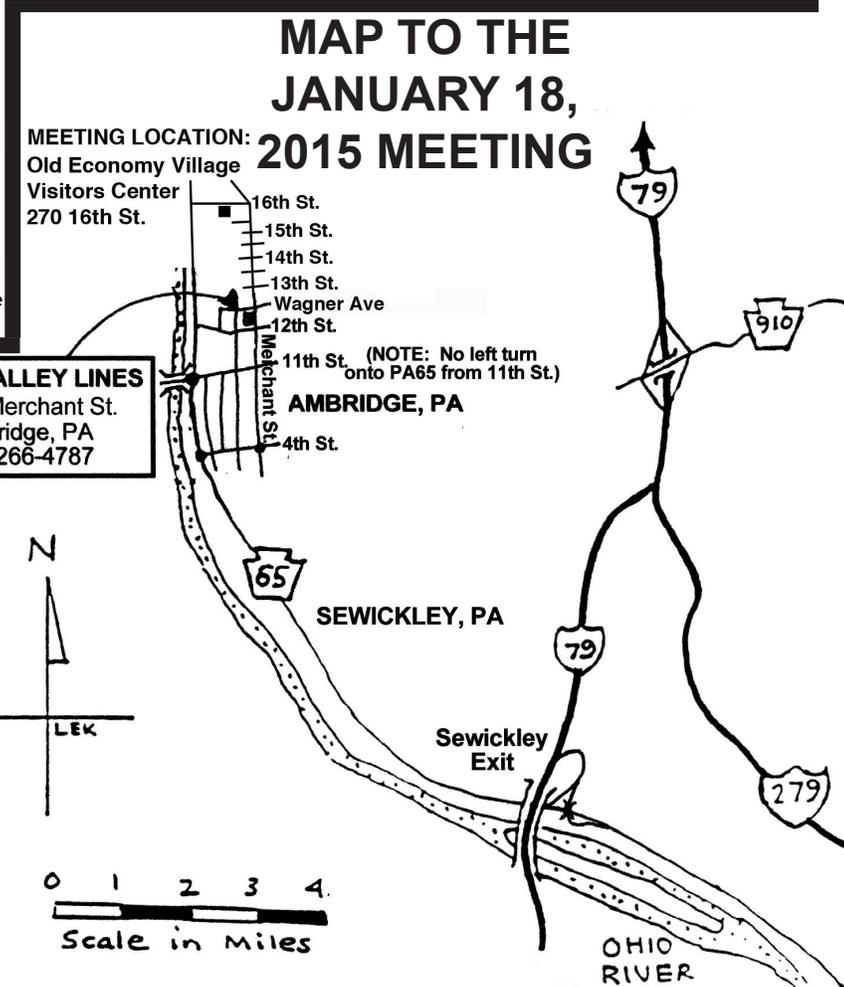
Dennis Vaccaro's nifty little engines, right, earned a tie for third place with Steve Ross's postcard collection in the November B'n'B contest. John Polyak photos.



MAP TO THE NOVEMBER 16, 2014 MEETING



MAP TO THE JANUARY 18, 2015 MEETING



The editor was sorry to have to miss Andy Blenko's program on Trolley's in Irwin following the November meeting due to yet another conflict between NMRA Sundays and Boy Scout outings. John Polyak photo.

The Keystone Flyer

Division Two, NMRA, MCR
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NEXT MEETING:

Sunday, November 16, 2015
New Eagle Volunteer Fire Department
New Eagle, 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>