

November 2015



Vol. 57, Issue 10

# THE *Keystone Flyer*

MCR  
Div. 2



## *Editor's Model of the Month by Bill DeFoe*

### Division Meeting Schedule

**November 15, 2015** - New Eagle VFD, 156 Chess St, New Eagle, PA 15607

Layouts: Mid-Mon Valley Model RR Club open 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM & after the meeting; Susan Werner open Noon - 1:30 PM & after the meeting

Meeting: 2:30 PM

Program: Gary Strellick, "Getting There in Style: Motorcars"

**January 17, 2016** - Old Economy Village Visitors Center, 270 16th St, Ambridge, PA 15003

Layout: Ohio Valley Lines, 1225 Merchant St, Ambridge, PA 15003, open at 1:30 PM

Meeting at 2:30 PM

### Bring'n'Brag

<b>Jan</b>	Anything Goes
<b>Feb</b>	Homes & Residential Structures
<b>Mar</b>	Built Resin Kits
<b>May</b>	Diesel Locomotives
<b>Jun</b>	Diners & Lounges
<b>Aug</b>	Commercial Structures
<b>Sep</b>	Paper Industry
<b>Oct</b>	Refrigerated Cars
<b>Nov</b>	Open Hopper Cars

**Submission Deadline for the January Flyer:**

**December 11, 2015**

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



## From the Super's Desk

### Ch-ch-changes

Our October program provided opportunity to see and hear about three layouts that stand out in my mind as products of careful planning and construction. They represent long-term projects at various stages in

development.

Bob Prehoda's. Huntingdon Northern predates the other two in concept and construction. I missed the early stages of its development, for Bob was already holding operating sessions at the time of my first visit in the 1990's.

I think of Dick Flock's layout as being young although it's been under construction for well over a decade. As far as I can tell most or all of the track is in and scenery sketched out or complete over most of its extent.

Andy Blenko's is the youngest with basic construction and track work in progress. I enjoy listening to model railroaders tell how they came to design and build their layout. Andy's presentation told me a lot about his railroad and his life.

What unites these three layouts is the planning that went onto the construction. I remember Dick asking for advice on his track plan, which to me looks very detailed. It fits his space hand in glove. Andy told us about all the advice he has taken over the years as he has planned each step.

The record in planning and stick-to-it-tiveness on the national scene must be Jack Burgess' Yosemite Valley Railway (<http://www.yosemitevalleyrr.com>). He had the advantage--or maybe the curse--of having an actual railroad prototype as a guide. Still, he had to fit the scenes he selected and track arrangement into a room in real space. While not following construction of the Yosemite Valley at every step, I believe he followed his original plan in the several decades of its construction. A few years ago he had the temerity to challenge model railroad collective wisdom when he announced in the press that his layout was complete.

But Jack is a king among modelers. Most of us like Sisyphus roll that stone to the top of the grade just to see it roll back down. Still, we start over.

Modifications to original plans range from adding another switching location to rebuilding discrete sections to starting all over. Sometimes changes are forced us by floods or hurricanes, or simply because we move. Layouts become super sized but after a while we might need to downsize.

My modeling journey has taken me from full freelancing ever closer to a specific prototype in track, structures, and rolling stock as I zero in on a particular location. I've written in previous columns I find selective compression increasingly unsatisfying and feel the need to model an appropriate quantity of nothingness. This has involved

... See "Super," p. 4

### Division Elected Officers

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#### Jamboree Committee

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Grier Kuehn                   gekuehn@comcast.net  
Gary Carmichael            prorr@aol.com

Please note that the email address for Jim Sacco has been incorrectly shown in previous issues of the Flyer. It has been corrected, above. ed.

## THE KEYSTONE DIVISION

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>

# Minutes

**John Gallagher**

The meeting was convened at 2:30 p.m. by Superintendent Hohn. He thanked Andy Blanko, for hosting the meeting at the Norwin Public Library Irwin, Pa. Andy welcomed everyone.

There were two new members and two guests present. The new members were Randy Bogal and (I missed the first name) Bogucki. The two guests were Phil Wadsworth and Bob Weinheimer. Over 50 members attended the meeting.

The minutes of the previous business meeting were approved as published in the Keystone Flyer. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

## Reports

Editor of the Keystone Flyer: This past month's edition of the Keystone Flyer didn't make it into the mail because the editor was OBE. It was pointed out that the color edition was sent to people on Susan Werner's Division 2 email list. If you did not get a copy, you are not on Susan's Division Two email list. If you aren't on Susan's list, please get it to Susan as soon as possible. If you're worried about privacy concerns, your email will not be sent to anyone else, even the National headquarters.

Treasurer: It was reported that our total assets are \$18,000. That's a change of \$100 from last month. Andy Blenko reported that the "convention account" is unchanged from last month.

Programs: Keith Devault, Assistant Superintendent, reminded those in attendance that next month's meeting will be held at the New Eagle Volunteer Fire Department in, of all places, New Eagle, Pa.

The January meeting will be, as in recent years, at the Old Economy Village Visitors Center in Ambridge. It's much warmer and less crowded than the Ohio Valley Lines (OVL) building. However, the OVL layout will be open for viewing from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

The March meeting has been changed from the usual third Sunday to the 13th of March to avoid possible conflicts with Palm Sunday. The motion to change the date passed by unanimous voice vote.

Company Store: Jerry Kyslinger reported that the fire sale the Company Store is having on books is going well reducing our inventory of books substantially. There is only one handcar shed left, but the sale of NYC boxcars is proceeding slowly.

The Superintendent showed a building project that the Mid Central Region (MCR) is selling. The building is a wood and styrene kit of a former school in Winchester, Ohio. It is typical of one room school houses of the nineteenth century. The Superintendent pointed out that it could be kit-bashed for many other purposes. It will cost \$45 of which

\$5 will go to Division Two.

Jerry also asked the members to let him know what types of items they would like to see in the Company Store.

Jerry also took the opportunity to announce that the Free-Mo modules and the Division Two table will not be at the November Greenberg Show due to failure to get the paperwork in on time. We will definitely be represented there at the February show as it does not conflict with any NMRA events. Jerry also reported that the module group will be setting up for the 1st United Methodist Church on 4 December from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. to entertain the members of the congregation. As always, they are looking for new members.

Switching hats, Jerry pointed out that elections for Division officers are approaching. Anyone interested in running for office should contact Jerry.

The Superintendent took the opportunity to thank members who fill in while functions are open. From his trips to the MCR meetings, he believes we are one of the best organized divisions.

Membership & Web Site: Membership is down to 238 members. A listing of the NMRA tapes and remaining books is posted on the Division web site. A jamboree page has been started.

Free-Mo: See above under Company Store.

Bring N' Brag: There were only six entries. Please vote.

Video Library: Bud Brock was not present to give a report.

Achievement Program: If you have performed any function for the Division, you may qualify for a Division/Officer/Volunteer award which can add points to your quest for a Master Model Railroader award.

Welcome Committee: Susan had no report.

## Old Business

Jamboree update. The date of 23 April has been firmed up with Robert Morris University officials. We like using the Sewell Center as it fits our needs well. We almost have enough clinicians.

New Business There was no New Business.

## For the Good of the Order

The product "Air Seal" has many uses for model railroading.

Terry Arbogast is writing a book about the West End of the B&O. It will be 440 pages long. See Keith if you wish to order a copy.

... See "Minutes," p. 4

# Bring'n'Brag

**Donald Austel**

A big thankyou to the Norwin Public Library in Irwin PA where the October Division 2 meeting was held. I always love this place for their kindness and hospitality. It also is very nice for the large turnout of Division 2 members with a few guests as well. This month's Bring N Brag was Refrigerated Cars. First place was Bill DeFoe with his Missouri & Arkansas Refrigerator car. Second Place was split three ways between Dick Flock's Reefer Collection (24 Cars), Marjorie Meehan's Athearn 40 ft Kraft & Railway express Reefers, and Steven Schorr's O-scale refrigerated freight car. Third Place was Susan Werner's for her Bangor & Aroostok Railroad refrigerator car. Neal Schorr entered a Laser kit two-story O-scale farmhouse. An extra big Thankyou to all the members that voted for them. Thank you again.

## Bring'n'Brag Standings:



<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>
Marge Meehan	44	Marty Knouse	7
Dick Flock	24	Steve Ross	7
Bob DiBenedetto	19	Jim Kubanic	6
Bryce Walat	19	Arley Mitchell	6
Bill DeFoe	14	Dennis Vaccaro	4
Neal Schorr	14	Jim Braum	3
Susan Werner	14	Mark Vinsch	3
Steven Schorr	10	Hans Werner	3
Frank Benders	8	John Polyak	1
Mike Hohn	7		



Steven Schorr's O-scale version of a modern CSX refrigerated box car, which earned a 3-way tie for 3d Place in the B'n'B contest, is an interesting contrast to the traditional reefer represented by Bill DeFoe's HO-scale 1st Place entry pictured on the front page.

"Super" ...

modified track plans, altered bench work, another order of ballast.

I will try to plan a little better, hold off until I'm sure I have the final version, build carefully. Before I start, however, I ask myself, "Is this new direction the way to go?" And if the answer is "yes," I tear into things. As David Bowie sang, I make those changes.

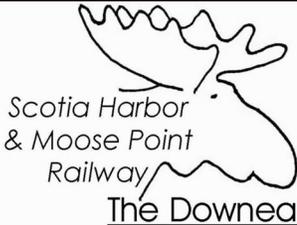
*... Mike Hohn*

"Minutes" ...

Today's program is about the design process of the "Pittsburgh Mainline" model railroad, by Andy Blenko.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. The next meeting will be at the New Eagle Volunteer Fire Department.





Scotia Harbor  
& Moose Point  
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Susan Werner, CEO  
292 Salem Church Rd.  
Belle Vernon, PA 15012  
swerner48@yahoo.com

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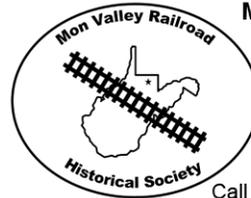
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## Blacklog & Shade Gap Eastern Railroad

Vagel Keller, Gen'l. Manager  
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OHIO RIVER NORTHERN RAILWAY CLUB

# 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. 14	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. NOV. 15	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. NOV. 20	06:00 pm	09:00 pm
SAT. NOV. 21	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. NOV. 22	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. NOV. 27	6:00PM	09:00 pm
SAT. NOV. 28	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. NOV. 29	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. DEC. 4	11:00AM	09:00 pm
SAT. DEC. 5	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. DEC. 6	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. DEC. 11	06:00 pm	09:00 pm
SAT. DEC. 12	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. DEC. 13	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. DEC. 18	06:00 pm	09:00 pm
SAT. DEC. 19	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. DEC. 20	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SAT. DEC. 26	06:00 pm	09:00 pm
SUN. DEC. 27	11:00 am	05:00 pm
MON. DEC. 28	11:00 am	05:00 pm
TUES. DEC. 29	11:00 am	09:00 pm
WED. DEC. 30	11:00 am	05:00 pm
THU. DEC. 31	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SAT. JAN. 2	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. JAN. 3	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. JAN. 8	11:00 am	09:00 pm
SAT. JAN. 9	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. JAN. 10	11:00 am	05:00 pm
FRI. JAN. 15	06:00 pm	09:00 pm
SAT. JAN. 16	11:00 am	05:00 pm
SUN. JAN. 17	11:00 am	05:00 pm

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

Saturdays	Sundays
12/5 12 - 5 PM	12/6 12 - 5 PM
12/12 12 - 5 PM	12/13 12 - 5 PM
12/19 12 - 5 PM	12/20 12 - 5 PM
12/26 12 - 5 PM	12/27 12 - 5 PM
1/2 12 - 5 PM	1/3 12 - 5 PM

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

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

Friday	Saturdays
11/27 6 - 10 PM	11/28 1 - 8 PM
	12/5 1 - 8 PM
	12/12 1 - 8 PM
	12/19 1 - 8 PM
	12/26 1 - 8 PM
Sundays	
11/29 1 - 6 PM	
12/6 1 - 6 PM	
12/13 1 - 6 PM	
12/20 1 - 6 PM	
12/27 1 - 6 PM	

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

**New Eagle** - Mid Mon Valley Model Railroad Club Holiday Open House, 159 Main St., New Eagle, PA 15132; [www.mmvmrrc.org](http://www.mmvmrrc.org) Dates & Times:

Nov. 28 & 29	noon - 5 PM
Dec. 5 & 6	noon - 5 PM
Dec. 12 & 13	noon - 5 PM
Dec. 19 & 20	noon - 5 PM
Dec. 26 & 27	noon - 5 PM
Jan. 2 & 3	noon - 5 PM

## Fall Model Train Show and Sale

sponsored by  
**Beaver County Model Railroad & Historical Society**

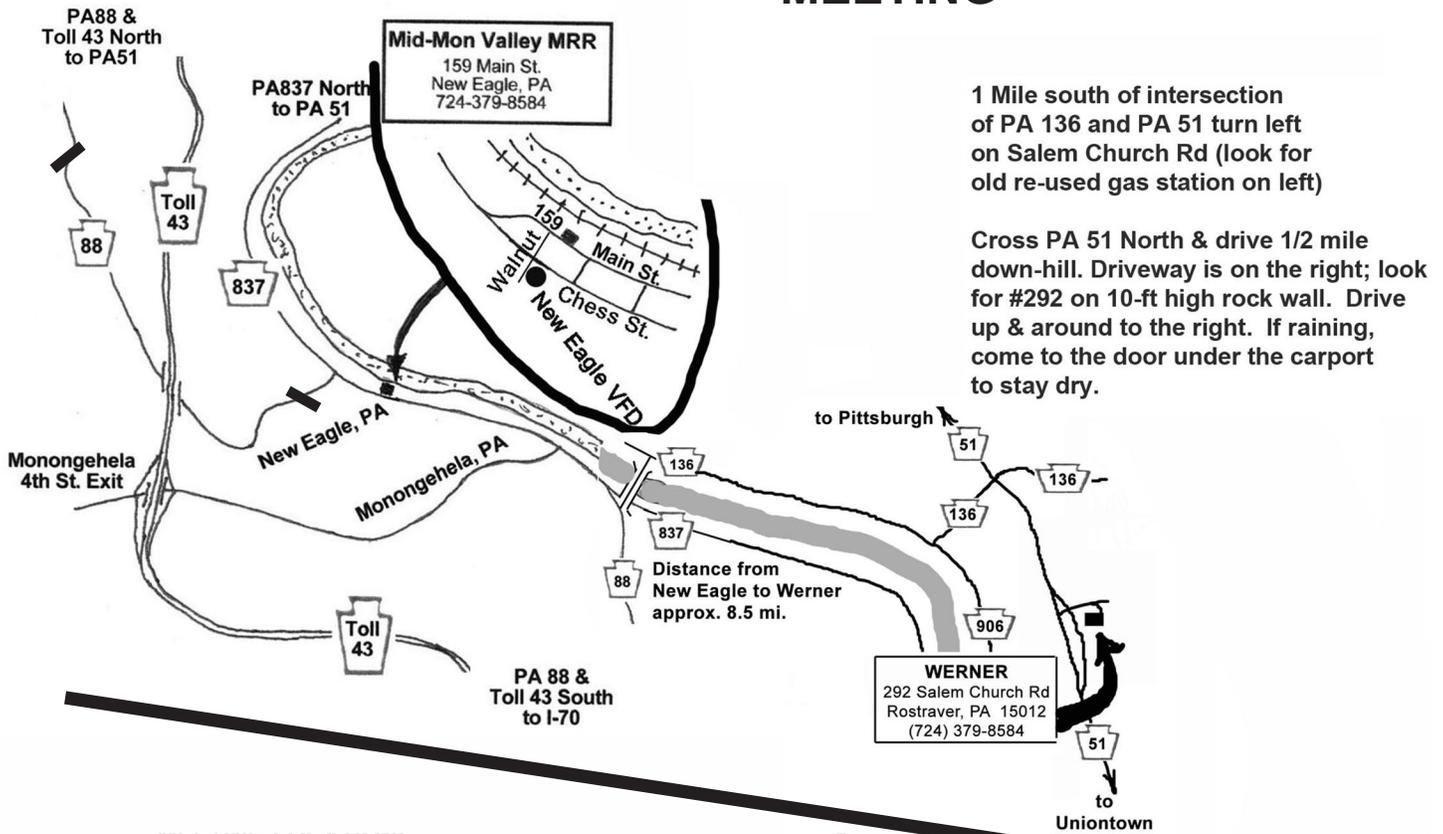
**Sunday, Nov. 22, 2015, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

Center Stage  
1495 Old Brodhead Road  
Monaca, Pa 15061  
\$5.00 admission; kids under 12 free

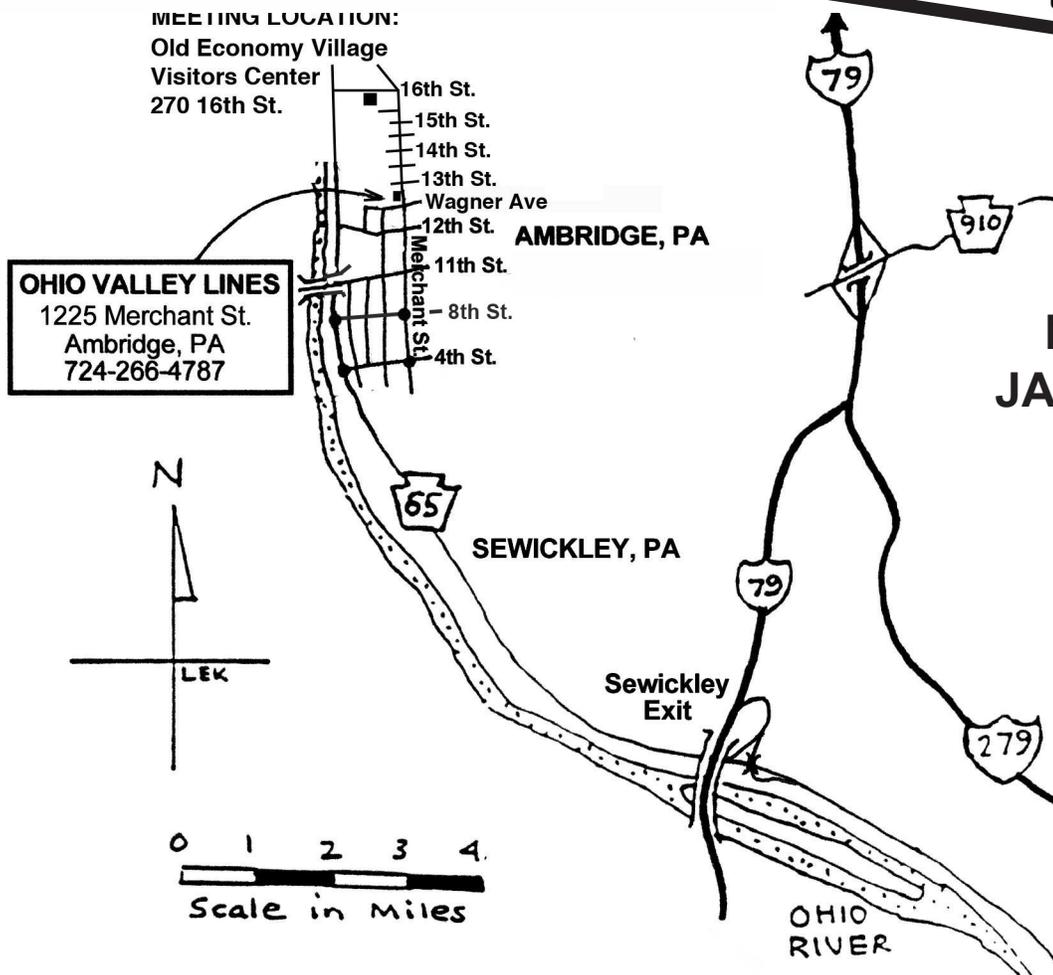
Website: <http://www.bcmrr.railfan.net>  
email: [beaverctymrr@gmail.com](mailto:beaverctymrr@gmail.com)

Rt. 88 is closed between Finleyville and New Eagle due to a washout. It will remain closed until Thanksgiving. The best alternative is Rt. 51 S to West Elizabeth then Rt. 837 to New Eagle.

# MAP FOR THE NOVEMBER 15, 2015 MEETING



# MAP FOR THE JANUARY 17, 2016 MEETING



## The Keystone Flyer

Division Two, NMRA, MCR  
266 Gateshead Drive  
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### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



#### NEXT MEETING

November 15, 2015  
New Eagle Volunteer Fire Department  
New Eagle, PA

<p><b>Western Pennsylvania</b> Est. 1938 <b>Model Railroad Museum</b></p> <p>(724) 444-6944 5507 Lakeside Drive, Gibsonia, Pa. 15044 Formerly the Pittsburgh Model Railroad Historical Society</p>	<p> <b>MID-MON VALLEY MODEL RAILROAD CLUB</b> </p> <p><b>159 Main Street, New Eagle, PA</b> <b>Meetings: Fridays 7:30 pm</b></p>
<p> <b>McKeesport</b>™ <b>MON-YOUGH VALLEY R.R.</b> <b>MODEL R.R. CLUB</b></p> <p>Visitors Welcome <b>MEMBERSHIP OPEN</b></p> <p>2209 Walnut Street McKeesport, PA Open Wednesday &amp; Friday Evenings</p>	<p> <b>OHIO VALLEY LINES</b> <b>INC.</b></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><b>PHONE (724) 266-4787</b> E-Mail: ohiovalleylines@yahoo.com</p>
<p><b>All aspects of "S":</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scale • Narrow Gauge</li><li>• Hirail • American Flyer</li></ul> <p>Monthly meetings Two portable layouts <b>Membership open</b></p> <p>Contact: Jon Knox 724-287-6829</p> 	<p> <b>BEAVER COUNTY MODEL RAILROAD and HISTORICAL SOCIETY</b> </p> <p>416 6th St. Monaca, PA 15061  Visitors Welcome</p> <p>Worknights: Tuesdays 7:30 <a href="http://www.bcmrr.railfan.net">www.bcmrr.railfan.net</a></p>