

October 2016



Vol. 58, Issue 9

THE *Keystone Flyer*

MCR
Div. 2



Editor's Model of the Month by Sam Swanson

Division Meeting Schedule

October 16, 2016 - Norwin Public Library, 1 Caruthers Ln, Irwin, PA 15642
Layouts: Andy Blenko and Bob Prehoda open 11 AM til the Meeting & after the Meeting until 5 PM.
Program: Andy Blenko, "Walt Disney's Railroad Story"

November 20, 2016 - New Eagle VFD, 156 Chess St, New Eagle, PA 15607
Layouts: Mid-Mon Valley Model RR Club open Noon - 2:00 PM; Susan Werner open Noon - 2:00 PM & after meeting upon request
Fire Hall open at 11:00 AM for Swap Meet

Bring'n'Brag

Jan	Anything Goes
Feb	Bridges
Mar	Steam Power
May	Scratch Built Model
Jun	Built Laser Kits
Aug	Railroad Stations
Sep	Coal Industries
Oct	Farm Structures
Nov	Layout Photographs

Submission Deadline for the next *Flyer*:

October 28, 2016

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



From the Super's Desk

Farewell to the M&K

By the time you read this, one of the great model railroads of our time will likely be gone. I am speaking of the M & K Railroad that Don Cassler built (with other crew mates) over the last forty years. Don was a good person to each of us that knew him. He also was a great friend of the Division.

He would open his layout for the conventions that we have hosted, operating sessions on Saturdays for guys who wanted to operate. His layout would be open after each Jamboree, and the Railroad Prototype Modelers Meeting held every other year here in the area.

I would like to take a few moments to describe the layout, for the readers that have not had the privilege of visiting over the years. It represented an Appalachian coal hauling and freight railroad located in Northern West Virginia, modeled on B & O prototype standards. The railroad was in an effort to catch the spirit of the B & O's West End Division, being the 50 mile section from Keyser to Grafton. The M & K junction is a really interesting spot on the line.

On Don's railroad he and his crew tried to recreate the impression of the late 50's and 60's. The layout was built as a contribution for visitors to be railfans. You could walk around the layout and take photos of every different kind of scene that the railroad offered. He used mountains as the setting for the railroad, and also as view blocks to isolate stretches of the railroad. Trains would be 50 cars in length during the layout era which was typical for that time. The single track, passing siding main line was arranged to appear to be two and three track main line. The layout had three hidden staging yards. The main interest points on the railroad were the junctions, which had six visible junctions on the road, providing crossover capability so traffic could be handled with minimum delays.

The design of the railroad is somewhat unusual in that it is a true island and did not touch the wall except for a coke oven siding that was built in the last few years. It seems natural to have a train come onto the scene, cross it, and disappear in the distance. All sorts of interesting things can occur during its transit of the scene, which adds variety to the operation. All the track work on the layout was hand laid, along with the switches, which led to no derailments during his operating sessions. The minimum visible radius was 48 inches, with the switches on the main being # 8's and everything else were # 6's.

Many of the structures were scratch built, which enabled the crew to match the structure types found in the real prototype in the area that they modeled. Don had an operating

SEE "Super," p. 6 ...

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Asst. Superintendent, Meetings & Programs

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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 August meeting was convened at 2:23 p.m. by Superintendent DeVault. He thanked the Borough of Leetsdale for allowing us to rent Henley Park. There were approximately 50 members and guests present. Since everyone seems to enjoy the part so much, it was moved and seconded that we rent the facility for next year's picnic as well. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

New Members: Larry Martin and Laura Jodan, wife of Richard Jodan

Guests: Many spouses, too numerous to mention

The minutes of the previous business meeting were approved as amended. The September Business Meeting will be held in the Connellsville Canteen, not the Hobo Club. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Keystone Flyer: Vagel had no report.

Financial: The Treasurer noted that we are still solvent. Otherwise, there was no report.

Programs: We will be able to visit Harry Clark's layout, as well as the Hobo Club, next month. We will also be able to railfan the CSX Connellsville Yard, but as usual, stay off the property!!

Company Store: What remains of the Company Store is located in the back of Susan's car.

Membership: We are now at 242 members. That does not include the rail passes from the Jamboree. Hopefully, we'll increase by 12 more in the near future when the rail pass members become full members.

Free-Mo: The setup at the July Greenberg Show went well. Working with the South Hills group went smoothly. We are still looking for more members.

Video Library: All the videos that we received on disc are now available on the NMRA Members Only portion of their web site.

Bring 'N' Brag: Please vote.

Achievement Program: As the summer is winding down, Dennis reminded members to get back to work on their projects.

Old Business: The subject of the Division display was resurrected. Jim Sacco suggested that we acquire a digital video display that we can use to show pictures of Division layouts, activities, and announcements. It was moved and seconded that Jim Sacco be authorized to spend up to \$500 on a new digital display apparatus. The motion passed by unanimous hand vote.

New Business: Mike Hohn announced that he had a good time at the National Convention in Indianapolis and encouraged others to attend regional and National conventions as well.

There is a PDF file on the National web site, "The Best of the NMRA", to encourage new members to attend.

For the Good of the Division: Mel Ditheridge, a long time member of the Division, is now residing in a nursing home in Greentree. He is suffering from Alzheimer's Disease, Dementia and Parkinson's Disease. Visitors are welcome.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

The September meeting was convened at 2:35 p.m. by Asst. Superintendent Benders. He thanked the Connellsville Canteen for providing the refreshments.

New Members: Rich Peltz

Guests: Ray Magelky

The minutes of the of the previous Business Meeting were not reviewed. Due to communications difficulties, they could not be transmitted in time to be printed in the *Flyer*. They have been posted in the electronic version of the *Flyer* on the website.

Keystone Flyer: See above.

Financial: As reported the previous month, both the regular and Convention accounts are still in the black. Any questions can be directed to the Treasurer for the regular account or Andy Blenko for the Convention account.

Programs: Frank Benders reported that next month's meeting is still at the Norwin Public Library, as it has been in past years. The Blenko and Prehoda layouts will be open before and after the business meeting.

Company Store: Susan reported that there is a list of the few new books available on the website. A few of the "old books" remain at a steep discount. See her if there are any new titles you'd like to order.

Membership: We are now at 254 members. That does include all the rail passes from the Jamboree. Hopefully the membership will remain at its high level, or continue to grow.

Free-Mo: As usual, the Free-Mo group is still looking for additional members, to build a module(s) or just to help assemble /disassemble things before and after a show. If you're interested, contact Jerry.

Bring N' Brag: 8 entries. Please vote.

Achievement Program: There are a few items that need to be judged so the members can proceed.

Old Business: The news on the Jamboree is not good. What seemed like a firm promise from before, that we could use one of three possible weekends next spring,

SEE "Minutes," p. 4 ...

Bring'n'Brag

A thank you to Connellsville Community Center for hosting the Division 2 meeting this September, being in the military for thirty years this was one of the most impressive places I have seen for those of a way earlier time than myself to see. This month's Bring N Brag was "Coal Industries". First place was Marge Meehan for her Crosby Coal loading station. Second Place was Alden McBee with his Coal Steam shovels, and Third Place was Jim Braum's PRR Coal trestle. Other models entered this month by, Mark Vinski, Rick Montysnery, Bob DiBenedetto, Ken Hanawalt, and Dennis Vaccaro. And as always a Thank You to the members there who voted for them, and if I spelled your name wrong I am sorry but handwriting was not good to be shore of spelling. Thank you again.

THE KEYSTONE DIVISION

"Minutes," cont'd ... has been cancelled. It seems the representative from RMU with whom we had worked in the past, no longer works at the Sewell. There is a new representative from RMU who says the University is working on new plans for the Sewell Center that may not include events such as our Jamboree. They'll get back to us at some point.

The temptation is to immediately abandon the Sewell Center and find another location. The problem is that the Sewell Center provides an excellent site for our Jamboree in terms of location, food service, and size of venue, as well as support from the staff. We will begin looking for another possible location, while maintaining our contacts at RMU.

New Business: A motion was made to sponsor the RPM East Meet at the usual site in Greensburg. Steve Ross, who has taken over for Dick Flock, gave a summary of the benefits for the Division from sponsoring the event. The Division has sponsored the event in the past, as it helps advance local Prototype Modeling. Also, sponsoring the event allows the meet to be covered by the NMRA's insurance. and the sponsors have made a payment in the past to the Division for the use of its sponsorship. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

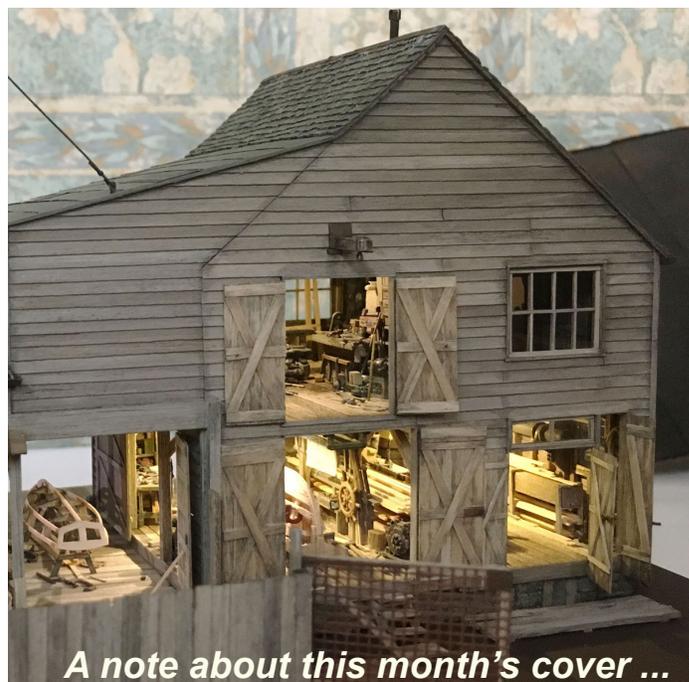
The event will be held March 24th and 25th.

For the Good of the Division: Grier Kuehn asked if anybody has a list of local "fire house" shows that sponsor the sale of model railroad "stuff". It seems the list is shrinking. Every month seems to bring news of a train club or fire department ceasing their train show, usually due to financial reasons. A list of functioning train shows would help us improve local communications as well as as promote model railroading. Current communication is usually word-of-mouth or flyers. Discussion ensued.

SEE "Minutes," p. 6 ...

Donald Austel

Name	Points	Name	Points
Alden McBee	51	Denny Lippert	8
Marge Meehan	34	Hans Werner	6
Frank Benders	27	Bob DiBenedetto	6
Dennis Vaccaro	23	Ken Hannawalt	6
Bill DeFoe	16	Mike Hohn	4
Dick Flock	12	Charlie Blenko	3
Jerry Kyslinger	10	John Gallagher	2
Neal Schorr	10	Vinny Kaplack	2
Joel Everly	9	Jim Kubanick	2
Steve Ross	9	Mark Vinski	2
Susam Werner	9	Bryce Walat	2
Jim Braum	9	Forest Lucas	1
Bud Brock	8		

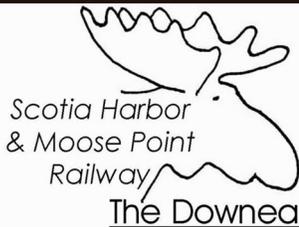


A note about this month's cover ...

Reed's Wooden Boat Works, a scratch-built masterpiece in HO Scale by Sam Swanson, won Best-in-Show at the NMRA National Convention this summer and wowed the special honors judges at the National Narrow Gauge Convention in Augusta, Maine last month, where your editor photographed it. Sam built it as a tribute to his friend, fellow model railroader, and Keystone Division member the late Don Reed.

Sam and Don shared both a love for the wooden structures of the Maine sea coast in days gone by and a talent for building exquisite scale models set in model railroad scenes evocative of that place and time. Don, a Maine native, was a big contributor to Sam's efforts at developing plans for his models.





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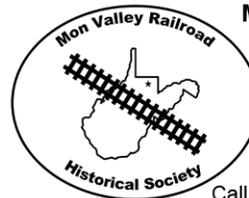
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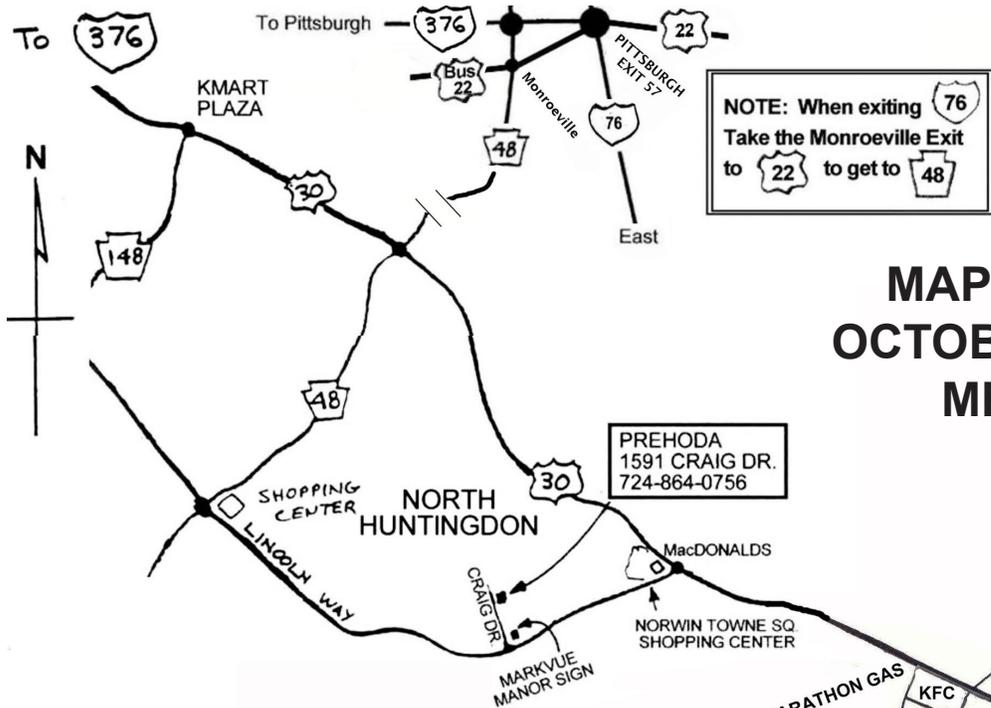
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CONTACT
JOEL EVERLY
(740) 282-9854

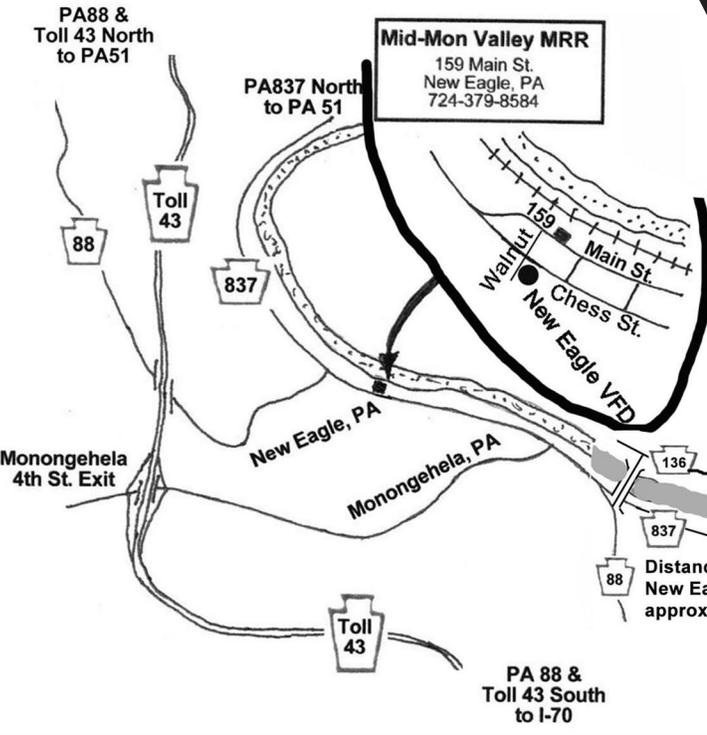
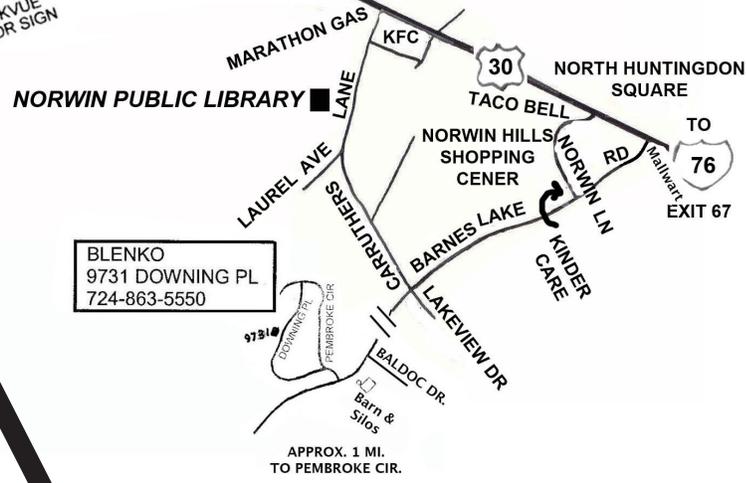
NEW MEMBERS
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OHIO RIVER NORTHERN RAILWAY CLUB



MAP FOR THE OCTOBER 16, 2016 MEETING

MAP FOR THE NOVEMBER 20, 2016 MEETING



1 Mile south of intersection of PA 136 and PA 51 turn left on Salem Church Rd (look for old re-used gas station on left)

Cross PA 51 North & drive 1/2 mile down-hill. Driveway is on the right; look for #292 on 10-ft high rock wall. Drive up & around to the right. If raining, come to the door under the carport to stay dry.

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NEXT MEETING -
 October 16, 2016
 Norwin Public Library
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<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 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 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>