


THE *Keystone Flyer*
MCR
Div. 2
February 2019 Vol. 61, Issue 2

The Kroger warehouse in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, September 1942. Photo by Ann Rosener for the Office of War Information, courtesy of Shorpy.com— a wonderful resource on vintage photos.



Division Meeting Schedule

February 17, 2019 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm
Rochester Area Heritage Society (open 12:30pm-4pm)
350 Adams Street, 2nd Floor, Rochester, PA 15074
Program: Keith DeVault: Sights of the Chessie System

March 17, 2019 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm
Mon Valley Railroad Club (meeting in restaurant upstairs)
128 Pleasant Street
Morgantown, WV 26505
Program: TBD
Layouts: Mike Hohn, Keith DeVault, Kent Colvin

Get the Color Version of the *Keystone Flyer* as soon as it comes out and other Division 2 news flashes and announcements via email. Contact Susan Werner
swerner48@yahoo.com

Bring'n'Brag*

Jan*	Anything goes
Feb*	Motive Power: Diesel, Electric & Traction
Mar	Motive Power: Steam
Apr	* Jamboree *
May	Freight Cars
Jun	Non-Revenue (incl. cabooses)
Aug	Passenger Cars
Sep	Vehicles
Oct	Structures
Nov	Prototype Photos

* Due to the January meeting cancellation, contests for both categories will be held at the February meeting *

Submission Deadline for March *Flyer*:
February 25, 2019



From the Super's Desk

I mentioned in the last Keystone Flyer about layouts for operating sessions. Operation sessions are fast becoming a popular way to have fun with friends in model railroading, and I am seeing more people who, when they build a layout, look for the aspects of operations instead of just "playing" with their models.

It takes those already immersed in any aspect of this hobby to help those who don't have as much experience to be better and more comfortable in their new pursuit and to make this great hobby better overall. A big barrier to operations is the insecurity of not knowing everything right off, which fuels the fear of breaking something on the railroad, or damaging a locomotive, or being embarrassed about the learning process. I don't want anyone to be turned off of operations because of their fears.

I have a wide range of friends in the hobby who approach operations on various levels of seriousness. I built my layout to have fun, and to support each and every one of you who has a chance to operate on it. The unique organization of my layout allows this to happen, because the activities are focused on very basic operational aspects of the train, and not so much about rules, procedures, and remembering exactly how to do something for the railroad.

The layout doesn't depend on the anxiety-producing elements like fast clocks, timetables, or complicated controls. Operators can just have fun moving their locomotives back and forth but all the while experiencing prototypical work. My goal is to mix the "rookies" and the "old hands" together to further the enjoyment of playing with trains. Hopefully the "rookies" see that operations don't bite. They can become more curious and interested in learning more and be well on their way to becoming "old hands" themselves. So, when you are at an operating session, don't be afraid to ask questions so you can learn. Railroaders don't bite!

I would like to mention of couple other important things that have happened in our division. First, please go out and buy a copy of the 2019 Model Railroad Planning and read about our own Jim Sacco and his layout. Most of you who attended last year's Jamboree got a firsthand look at the workmanship and other important features that Jim put into his layout. Next thing -- it is starting to become crunch time to begin putting the finishing touches on our own 2020 Steel City Express. If you have any photos, descriptions of your layout, are going to be open for operating sessions or for the self-guided tours, please submit ASAP to me at devaultkj@comcast.net. I must put together the PowerPoint presentation the first of May for the 2019 convention in Boardman, Ohio. If you have photos and descriptions of clinics, outside tours, or anything that you think would help make the presentation, please submit to me. Lastly, I would like to recognize Dennis Vaccaro and his T-

Trak committee for the layout at the Greenberg Show, and to Pat Altdorfer, Rob Twigger and all the other committee members of the Free Mo group for their part in displaying the layout. It is showing lots of time and effort in their presentation, and it was enjoyed by many. Great job by all.

... Keith DeVault

Division Elected Officers

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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 and sent via e-mail directly to each member who chooses to receive the newsletter in this format. Alternatively, you may also read the *Flyer* online, or download a copy onto your computer or mobile device by navigating to the link on the Division Two website [www.keystonedivision.org]. Members without internet access or an e-mail address may request a printed copy from the Division; please send your name, address, and phone number to: Patrick Altdorfer, Editor, 6333 Morrowfield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15217. 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 in full color on the Division website.

Jamboree Potpourri

Grier Kuehn

As this is being written it's 8 degrees, snowing and windy with the morning rush hour traffic in gridlock. Yuk. Well, Spring really isn't that far away and neither is the end of April and Jamboree time. Here's a few reminders and a few new tidbits:

RMU Yorktown Hall was a new venue for us last year. Overall, we felt it worked out very well and with a few minor changes should be even better this year.

The popularity of the **White Elephant Sale** has continued to grow so the space and number of tables will be expanded. The WES is bigger because more people are discovering it's an easy way to sell their unwanted items. All you need to do is list your items on the sales forms available that morning. Or, you can do this ahead of time by downloading the form from the Jamboree pages of the Division web site. Please list each item with your three initials and sequential numbers (ABC-1, ABC-2, etc). (Check out the web page for complete selling details.) It's that easy and you can enjoy the activities all day while 3 or 4 division members will handle the sales and fast payouts at day's end (less a modest 10% commission). Also, the WES is a great way to purchase quality, must have, items. As a reminder all sales are cash only, no credit cards.

As always, the three **Popular Vote Cotest** categories of Motive Power, Rolling Stock and Structures will be joined by a fourth special category this year - Classic Plastic Structure Kits. The details for this category can be found in last month's (January) Keystone Flyer as described by Jim Sacco and on the Contest web page. Briefly, build (or rebuild) a vintage pre-1977 plastic kit. Slight modifications, added details and upgrades are fine, but no major kit-bashing or alterations are permitted. If you are unsure about the age of a kit, ask Jim, Gary or me. Our email addresses are on the second page of this Flyer.

The **Raffle** continues to grow and grow thanks to the efforts of Charlie Blenko. He has been able to solicit quality items which make for increased ticket sales. Without the proceeds from the Raffle, the Jamboree registration fee would be substantially

higher for all of us. Thanks Charlie for your efforts.

Here's a thought. Do you have a few quality (new) items and you don't want to bother with the WES? Consider donating them for the Raffle tables. Charlie will be happy to accept them the morning of the Jamboree or ahead of time.

Dennis Vaccaro and his helpers will have their **T-Trak** layout set up. They displayed it at the January Greenberg Show in Monroeville and, although a little light on scenery, it turned out to be a genuine crowd pleaser.

Most of the **12 Clinics** are finalized and, as the descriptions are received from the presenters, will be posted on the Jamboree web pages. Check them out.

Dan Cupper, noted rail historian, author and retired NS locomotive engineer will be our banquet speaker. Dan has also agreed to present a clinic. Check the website as the details of his presentations are finalized.

Remember, your registration includes the continental breakfast and buffet lunch. And as always, the optional banquet remains reasonably priced. All in all, it makes for a great day of model railroading. Registering for the Jamboree is easier than ever. **On-Line Registration** is here. Check it out on the Division website.

Finally - Your Jamboree Checklist:

- ⇒ Register
- ⇒ Bring a Friend
- ⇒ Enter Contests
- ⇒ Sell at the WES
- ⇒ Donate New Items to the Raffle
- ⇒ Bring Cash

See You April 27th!





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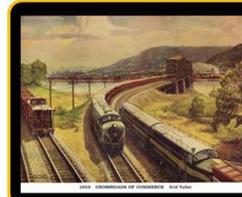
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from Morgantown to Keyser
Keith and Janet DeVault
546 Aspen Street, Morgantown, WV
(304) 276-2509 devaultkj@comcast.net



Richard H. Flock, CEO
337 Elm Drive
Greensburg, PA 15601
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Blacklog & Shade Gap Eastern Railroad

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

Follow our construction progress online at:
http://www.railroad-line.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=22893



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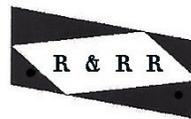


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NEW MEMBERS
WELCOME

OHIO RIVER NORTHERN RAILWAY CLUB

Make plans to attend RPM-East!

It is time to make your RPM-East plans and rekindle your modeling efforts after a long, cold winter! Two months remain until this prototype modeler gathering in suburban Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. There will be plenty of action March 22 & 23.

- two days of prototype and model presentations
- a large display room to share your modeling efforts and learn new techniques
- a variety of vendors selling goods for prototype modeling
- Thursday evening operating sessions on local model railroads
- an informal Saturday buffet
- Sunday model railroad layouts to visit

Early bird registration is only \$35 (until March 1), with an additional banquet cost of \$29.

The location is the same as last time: Ramada Greensburg Hotel and Conference Center, east of Greensburg on US Route 30. There is a special hotel room rate of \$95 per night.

Registration forms, hotel information and more can be found at the [RPM-East website](#).

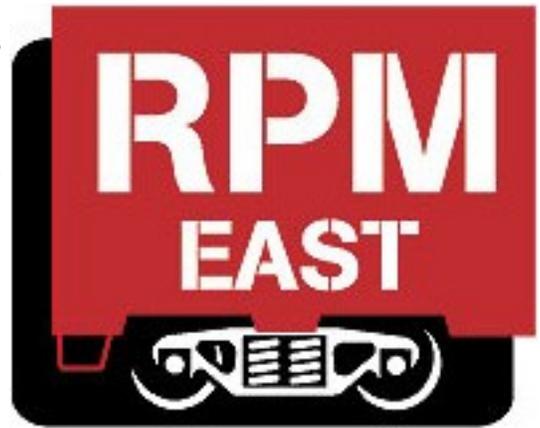
The following modelers and historians are committed for our meet:

John Albert, Keith Albright, David Bott, Brian Carlson, Ted Culotta, Larry DeYoung, Jim Elster, John Greene, Bill Hanley, Eric Hansmann, Ron Hoess, Bernard Kempinski, Dennis Lippert, Rick Mahaney, Bob Meier, Bill Neale, David Owens, Jim Panza, Dave Ramos, Ramon Rhodes, Greg Smith, Robert Sprague, Steve Stewart, Mont Switzer, John Teichmoeller, David Wilson, and Kaylee Zheng.

Presentation titles will be posted soon to the RPM-East website. A tentative presentation schedule will be posted to the [website \[http://www.hansmanns.org/rpm-east/index.htm\]](http://www.hansmanns.org/rpm-east/index.htm) in February.

RPM-East is sponsored by Division 2, MCR-NMRA.

Set your schedule and register now for RPM-East!



2019 NMRA Board of Directors Election

The 2019 election to the NMRA Board of Directors is under way now, and the following statement was sent to NMRA members by email at the stroke of midnight on February 1. Voting will take place online, so if you do not use the internet, you will need to contact the NMRA to explore whether you may vote by regular US Mail. In the email, it is suggested that questions could be answered if you send them to the NMRA—via email; not sure how this is supposed to work if you don't have email or internet. Voting is open for one month, through March 2 at midnight. What follows is the text of the email announcing the election:

You are invited to vote in the National Model Railroad Association 2019 NMRA Board of Directors Election. The voting deadline is Mar 2 2019 12:00 am Eastern Time (US & Canada).

We are using an online election system to tabulate our votes. You have been assigned a unique access key which can only be used to vote once, and your voting choices will remain anonymous. Do not forward this email. Do not reply to this email to vote, as your vote will not be registered.

If you have election questions, feedback or want to be removed from future ballot lists, please email the NMRA Elections Team at elections@nmra.org.

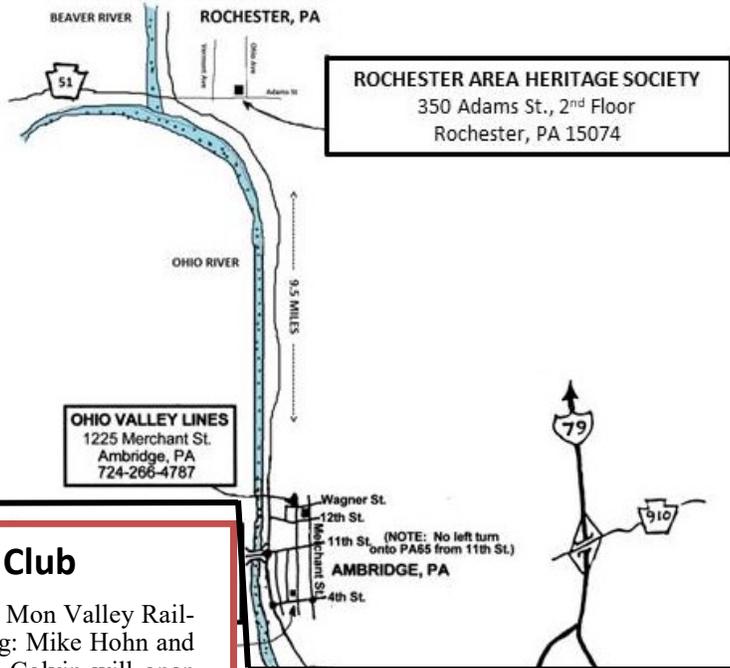
Feb. 17: Rochester Area Heritage Society

This is a new meeting site for Division Two, located 9.5 miles north of Ambridge on PA-65, at 350 Adams Street, Rochester, PA 15074, at 2:30pm. The Society will open for us at 12:30pm, and it will remain open until 4pm. Superintendent Keith DeVault will present a slideshow after the meeting on "Sights of the Chessie System."

Meeting sites

February 17, 2019:
ROCHESTER AREA HERITAGE SOCIETY
 350 Adams Street, 2nd Floor
 Rochester, PA 15074

March 17, 2019:
MON VALLEY RAILROAD CLUB
 129 Pleasant Street
 Morgantown, WV 26505

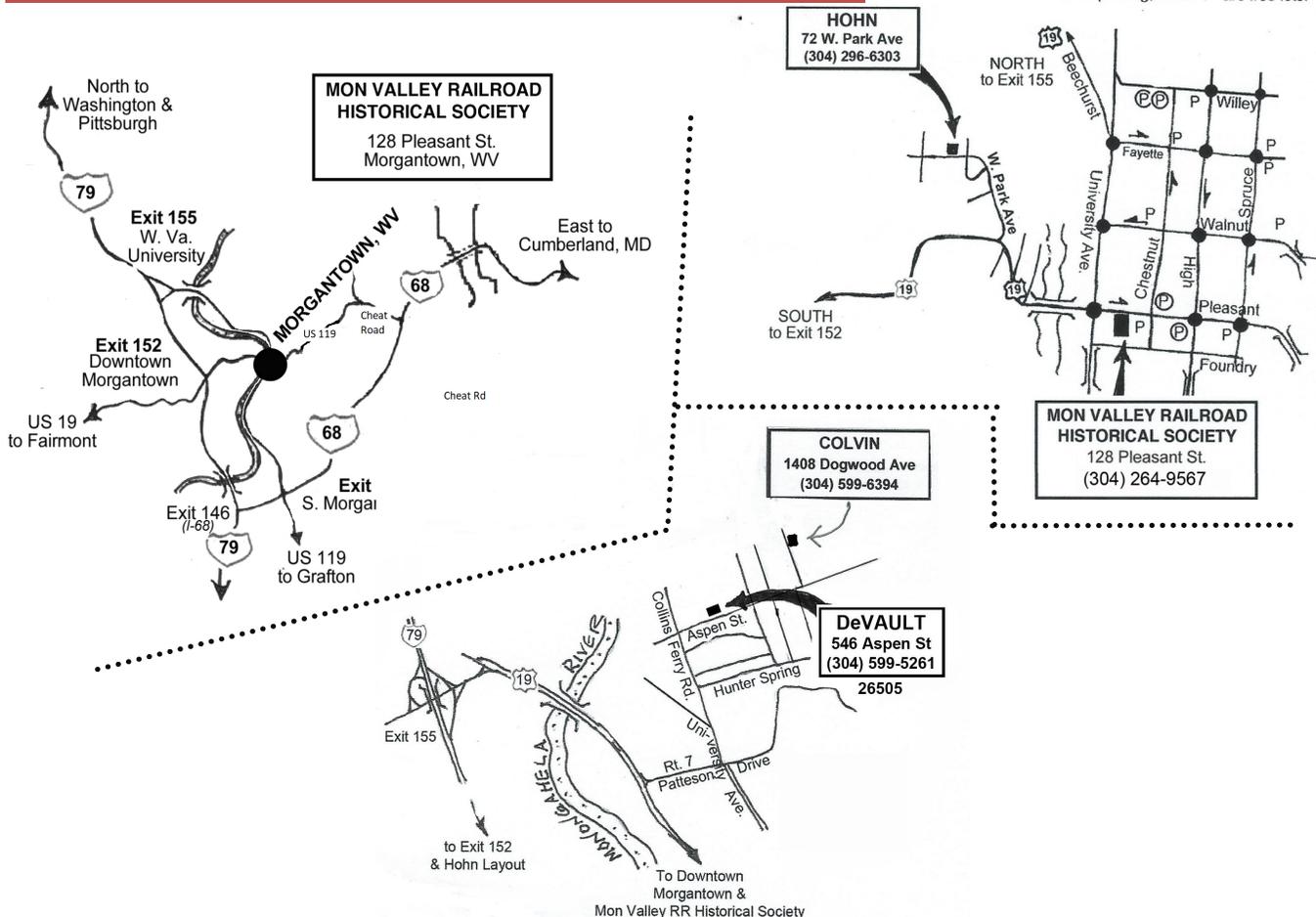


Mar. 17: Mon Valley Railroad Club

In March we meet in Morgantown, West Virginia, at the Mon Valley Railroad Club. Three layouts will be open before the meeting: Mike Hohn and Keith DeVault will open from 11am to 1pm, and Kent Colvin will open 11am to 2pm. Keith and Mike will also be open after the meeting until 5pm. Program is still in planning.

DOWNTOWN MORGANTOWN, WV

Arrows denote One-Way traffic.
 "P" is for parking; circle "P" are free lots.



News from Double Take Productions

This is the latest work on books from our friends at [Double Take Productions](#). The usual 20% discount applies.

Garbely Publishing: March 4, 2019 is the date that we will start shipping their next book, **Conrail Rainbow Years Vol. 1**. Covering the early years of Conrail before the spread of blue paint this 80 page, soft cover book will take a look at the patch era when a locomotive consist could carry the colors of many former roads. Price will be \$45.00.

Morning Sun: The following are out of print / stock at the warehouse but we still have a few copies available at the normal discounts:

Boston Trolleys Vol. 2
Erie Railroad in Color (Vol.1)
Northern New England Color Guide
Pacific Electric in Color Vol. 1
Pullman Standard Color Guide
Rio Grande in Color Vol. 2
World's Greatest – GG-1 Vol. 1 (Soft Cover)

Getting low is the **Monon in Color**

Withers Publishing: February 15, 2019 remains as the release date for their new **Norfolk Southern Locomotive Directory 2018-2019**. If that holds true we would expect to receive and start shipping them the following week. Price is \$34.95. Listed with a March 1, delivery is **The Stylish EMD GP30** which will carry a list price of \$59.95. This one will be a 176 pages, hard cover look at original owners of this interesting locomotive model. Some B&W images will be presented but color will dominate.

White River Productions: Three new titles have been announced for delivery in the next few months. First up is **Southern Pacific Western Division** which covers operations in Central and Northern California. Topics covered will be presented in Tiger Stripes, Black Widow and the Bloody Nose paint schemes. Price is \$79.95 and is being advertised as "Available in March". Next up will be **Eureka & Palisades – Biggest Little Railroad in the World**. Based in Nevada, this road served the mining region until the Great Depression era. Over 450 photos, 41 maps, and 18 equipment drawings should make this the "bible" for this road. Price is \$79.95 and it also is being advertised as "Expected delivery March 2019". The last title will be **Milwaukee Road: Tales Along the Racine & Southwestern** which is written by a former employee and is set in the 1970's era. The price for this one will be \$49.95 and carries an "Expected delivery in April 2019" schedule. As more is made known to us about these titles we will gladly pass on that info. Quality is always very high with any White River book and that standard is expected with these titles. Back orders welcomed and suggested.

2020 MCR Convention Structure Kits

As we approach the 2020 MCR Convention, this is a reminder that the yard building kits are now available for order. Three of the four kits—the Oil/Coal Shed, Telegraph Office, and Signal Tower, are now available in the scales O, S, HO, and N. More details about the kits, building instructions, and an order form are available on the [Division website](https://www.keystonedivision.org/convention_kits/convention_kits.html) [https://www.keystonedivision.org/convention_kits/convention_kits.html].

An order form is also reproduced on page 11 of the *Keystone Flyer* (online). You may print this page out and send it to Dennis Vaccaro, 2020 Building Committee, 830 Daugherty Lane, Rostraver Twp., PA 15012 (along with your check made out to "NMRA, MCR, Division 2"), or bring it to the next meeting so that we can get your order in and get your kit(s) out to you. Remember: not only are these beautifully detailed craftsman kits that would add authentic local scenery to your layout, and they are made in the USA by our friends at Portland Locomotive Works in Ohio, but this is also a fundraiser for Division Two that supports our efforts to put on a great Mid Central Region convention next year.

The Keystone Flyer
 Division Two, NMRA, MCR
 P.O. Box 223
 Gastonville, PA 15336



NEXT MEETING - February 17, 2018
 Rochester Area Heritage Society
 350 Adams Street, 2nd Floor
 Rochester, PA 15074

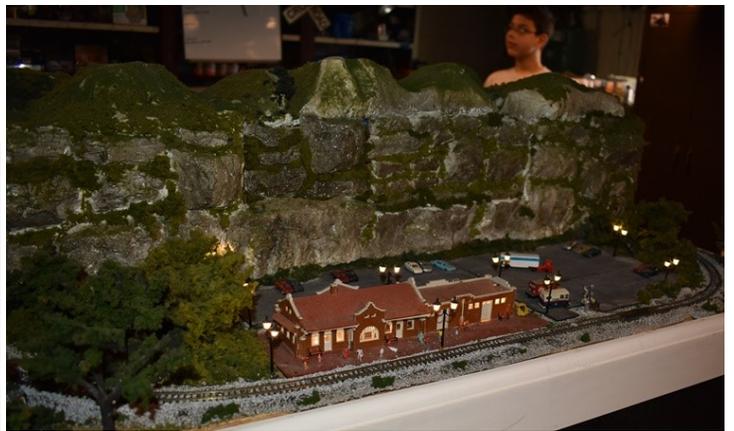
 <p>Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society 128 Pleasant Street Morgantown, WV 26505</p> <p>Meeting Thursdays at 7:00 PM</p> <p>www.MVRCC.org Call Rich Henderson (304) 276-1046 for more info</p>	 <p>MID-MON VALLEY MODEL RAILROAD CLUB</p> <p>159 Main Street, New Eagle, PA Meetings: Fridays 7:30 pm</p>
 <p>Visitors Welcome MEMBERSHIP OPEN</p> <p>2209 Walnut Street McKeesport, PA</p> <p>Open Wednesday & Friday Evenings</p>	 <p><i>Model Railroad Museum Library</i></p> <p>A modeler's information resource! OPEN every Monday 7:30 - 10 PM</p> <p>www.ohiovalleylines.org • info@ohiovalleylines.org • 724-226-4787 Memberships Available!!</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</p>  <p>Visitors Welcome</p> <p>Worknights: Tuesdays 7:30 www.bcmrr.railfan.net</p>



Richie and Laura Jodon are creating a basement-filling N scale layout of modern railroading, complete with long coal drags, local mixed freights, and those striking golden UP passenger trains, but your editor was happy to also see some Pennsy livery making the rounds too! And since Richie

is an electrician, it should come as no surprise that lighting—as well as lighting—graces the layout. Here is Richie's description and some pictures I managed to get before the November 2018 meeting, when they graciously hosted visitors to their layout room. Thanks to Richie and Laura for sharing their layout with us in November, and we look forward to seeing it again soon! - Patrick Altdorfer

My layout is a freelance layout. Eventually, I will give names to my fictional towns and buildings, but the main idea was to build a layout where I can watch all of the loco-



motive power pulling, and going through tunnels, and from town to town, from anywhere I was sitting in my basement. This layout allows me to do that.

It all began with an Atlas book 17 years ago. The layout started out only 42 inches long by 36 inches wide. Learning as I proceeded into modeling, the years went by.



Although I enjoy making scenery too, my favorite part is opening my layout to members and friends. Just seeing their reaction, or that look upon their face, is a great feeling for me,



and it is deeply gratifying to share this with them.



Mid-Mon Valley MRR Club

Layout Tour

The Mid-Mon Valley Model Railroad Club in New Eagle also opened its doors to Division Two before the November 2018 meeting. This HO scale railroad features some of the typical industrial scenes you expect in our region, plus some “traction action” for all who get their jollies on the trolleys! I was particularly impressed to see an apartment building that comes straight out of Bauhaus—appropriate since this year marks the centennial of this architectural movement. Here are a few pics I was able to snap at the club layout before the meeting at the VFD Social Hall. Enjoy!
- Patrick Altdorfer



Above: a cut of Pennsy flatcars spotted in the mill, in the background some “fresh” steel plates is being rolled; Left: a streetcar crosses a trestle as a string of hoppers below await orders; Below: W&LE 6310 pulls a train of coil cars past a cut of empty hoppers..



Left: Bambi grazing trackside, unfazed by the anachronistic Conrail 3180 locomotive or the group of juveniles sneaking up on her; Left, below: a PRR TruckTrain delivers freight the “last mile” to an industry next to the Bauhaus exemplar; Below: a 2-6-0 steam engine pulls a cut of 5 bottle cars across the trestle above a washed out poster that reminds passing engineers of a long ago wine festival.



2020 MCR Convention Structure Kits

NMRA MCR Division 2 Fund Raiser

Building	Scale	Cost Each	Shipping & Handling Each	Quantity	Total
Fire Hose Shed	O				\$
	S				\$
	HO	\$15.00	\$4.25		\$
	-	-	-	-	-
Oil/Coal Shed	O	\$24.00	\$9.00		\$
	S	\$19.00	\$9.00		\$
	HO	\$13.00	\$4.25		\$
	N	\$9.00	\$4.25		\$
Telegraph Office	O	\$55.00	\$9.00		\$
	S				\$
	HO	\$29.00	\$7.50		\$
	N				\$
Signal Tower	O	\$93.00	\$12.00		\$
	S				\$
	HO				\$
	N				\$
			Totals		

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Order Date: _____

Payment Method: _____