

# Scratch Building a Steam Shovel (p. 6)



## Editor's Model of the Month

For the second month in a row, Rick Montgomery won first place in the Bring'n'Brag model contest, in which his was the sole entry in the category "Motive Power — Steam" at our meeting in Morgantown last month. That does not detract from the quality of his work, as you can see from the weathering he did on this Bachmann HO scale model of the USRA 4-6-2 Pacific locomotive, with Bobby's added smoke effect. This month, the topic is "Freight Cars," which hopefully will encourage a little more participation in the contest. Details on page 5.

## Meeting Schedule

**April 16, 2023** - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm  
Ohio Valley Lines Model RR Club  
1225 Merchant Street  
Ambridge, PA 15003  
Program: Neal Schorr, Backdrop Painting II (praxis)

**May 4-7, 2023** - MCR Regional Convention  
Doubletree Hotel Cranberry  
910 Sheraton Drive  
Mars, PA 16046

Get the Color Version of the Keystone Flyer — as well as Online Extras — as soon as it comes out and other Division 2 news flashes and announcements via email. Contact Susan Werner:

[swerner48@yahoo.com](mailto:swerner48@yahoo.com)

## Bring'n'Brag

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

Submission Deadline for next *Flyer*:  
April 23, 2023

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[keystonedivision.org](http://keystonedivision.org)



## From the Super's Desk

We had the pleasure and honor of presenting Susan Werner with MMR #729 at the March Membership Meeting. Susan's family attended the meeting, and we all had the pleasure of celebrating her accomplishment together. It was a very special moment for all of us as well.

Congratulations Susan! You done good and we're all proud of you! You have made many contributions to our division, but this one's for YOU!

And how about the rest of us? Can more of our members achieve MMR certification?

Our AP Chair, Dennis Vaccaro has stated many times that it is not about "judging" your work but evaluating it. As a result, you can learn what you did well and what you could do to improve your modeling. We shouldn't be afraid of that.

I've read many of the articles in the NMRA magazine about how members achieved their MMR, and most will comment on how much they learned and how much their modeling improved as a result. The phrase "I had to learn a new way" or "I learned so much about..." as they prepared for each merit award appeared often. In my mind, there is a great opportunity to improve and be more satisfied with my modeling. Don't we all want to do that?

It's been said that the only way to eat an elephant is one bite at a time. So why not try just 1 Merit Award. Take one of your modeling activities and do it a bit better than OK and see what you can achieve. All the steps in the MMR certification are things we already do so why not get some recognition for it!

Our AP Chair, Dennis Vaccaro will help you understand the requirements and encourage you all the way. He has also named Susan as the assistant AP chair, so look at the help you can receive! We have over 200 Division Members. That's a lot of talent that could help you as well! The longest walk starts with a single step. Let's all start walking and see how far we want to go!

... *Dennis Coglianesese*

### 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](http://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.

## March 19, 2023 Business Meeting

*Keith Devault took minutes in Mike DeSensi's absence. -ed.*

Meeting called to order at 2:30PM by Superintendent Dennis Coglianesi with 54 in attendance.

He recognized Richard Turton, President of the Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society, who welcomed everyone to the society and hoped they enjoy the 3 new layouts that they are building.

Pass the Hat was moved around the room.

New Members and or guests: Ted Deavers was a guest of member Gary Deavers, and Brian Jodon was a guest of member Richie Jodon.

Kenton Colvin was recognized to speak on the behalf of OLLI from WVU, which was gracious to provide the meeting space for today's meeting.

Minutes were approved with one correction: Dave Martinelli stated that the proposal he made at the February meeting was about a FreeMo Group layout plan, not a personal one.

### Committee Reports

Keystone Flyer – Patrick Altdorfer stated that the deadline for the next issue will be March 26 for submission into the flyer He mentioned that Pike Ads are available for \$15 per year if you would like to promote your home layout in the flyer and on the website. The flyer is published 10 times per year, and members can list items in classified ads for free.

Treasurer – Jeff Gregg stated that the division is in good standing and we are solvent, and then Convention Treasurer Andy Blenko gave his report on the convention, we are starting to look good as far as paying for the convention expenses.

Programs – Assistant Superintendent and Program Chairman George Pandelios told the group that today's program from Neil Schorr is a two-part program, which will be continued next month, at the Ohio Valley Lines in Ambridge, with the layouts opening at 12 noon for the 2:30 meeting. George also announced the following meeting locations, with May being the Regional Convention, to be held at the Doubletree by Hilton at Cranberry on May 4 to 7. He is looking for a June location, no meeting in July, with the annual picnic at the park in Leetsdale, and the September Meeting will be at the Library in Steubenville, Ohio.

Company Store – Susan Werner has some books left to sell, 18 porch swings to fit HO company houses, and some tool sheds.

Website & Membership – Tom Gaus was not present and no report was submitted.

Free-Mo – Patrick Altdorfer stated that the group is gearing up for the Convention, he needs some volunteers to join the group,

and is waiting to hear about the Greenberg Show later this summer to exhibit the modules.

Bring & Brag – Co-Chair Tracy Boyd announced that Rick Montgomery won First Place for his steam engine, a Bachmann HO Scale 4-6-2 Pacific. Well done, Rick.

Video Library – Bud Brock was absent, no report.

Achievement Program – Dennis Vaccaro presented Susan Werner with her certificate for becoming a Master Model Railroader after finishing 7 different areas for this honor. The membership in attendance gave her a standing ovation and one that she worked hard to achieve.

T-Trak – Richie Jodon has been in contact with the 11 other region coordinators about coming to the convention to set up their modules. He has over 30 now from just our division. His group will be setting up at the Railroad Prototype Modelers meet this coming weekend at Westmoreland Community College.

MCR Regional Convention – Keith DeVault, Convention Chairman, spoke to the group on the many activities at the convention and he recognized the convention committee members who gave their report on each one of the activities. He stated to look onto the website for all the information for the convention, from clinics, tours, vendors, T-Trak, Contest, Layout Tours and so much more.

### Old Business - None.

New Business - It was moved (by Dennis Vaccaro) and seconded (by Richie Jodon) to hold a brief May meeting at the convention to satisfy our by-laws, and the Motion passed. It was moved (by George Pandelios) and seconded (by Susan Werner) to move the June meeting from June 18<sup>th</sup> to June 25<sup>th</sup>, as it reflects that June 18<sup>th</sup> is Father's Day. The Motion passed.

Concerns and Questions - Richard Turton asked the group about doing a photo roster so everyone can recognize the members in attendance at all the events. Everyone seemed to go along with the idea, and the Superintendent stated that he will look into this request.

What's on your Workbench? - Dennis Coglianesi stated about JMRI and the success and some failures with this program; Andy Blenko asked the group about graffiti on a plaster bridge abutments with no solution why it is peeling off after using Solvaset and Micro Sol; Jimmy Braum is working on some new decals for his layout.

### For the Good of the Division

Jimmy Braum gave a report on East Broad Top with an engine running under steam for the first time since 1956 in February 2023. The exhibition had 4 trains running with over 2,000 people in attendance, plus other attendees taking photos.

... continued on page 6



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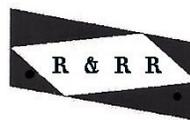


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gpnastaseo2jzo@gmail.com

Route of the  
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15  
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CONTACT  
JOEL EVERLY  
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NEW MEMBERS  
WELCOME

OHIO RIVER NORTHERN RAILWAY CLUB

March 2023



B&O #5213, a Light Pacific style steam locomotive, passes the Ralston Purina distributor on Rick's home layout.

Photo by Rick Montgomery.

Congratulations go out to Rick Montgomery! Rick was our sole contestant for March's Bring'n'Brag contest, on the topic of "Motive Power: Steam."

He weathered an HO scale Bachmann USRA 4-6-2 Light Pacific #5213. Rick used Monroe Models weathering powders. The colors include soot black, dark rust, and ash gray. Other materials Rick used for weathering were a Woodland Scenic tie paint marker and actual lump coal in the tender. Bobby teased cotton to simulate the smoke effect. Rick's entry earned three points.

- Tracy Boyd



Manufacturer photo of the HO scale locomotive for comparison.



Name	pts
Rick Montgomery	6
Joel Everly	3
Susan Werner	2
Rick Bennett	1

The April contest category is **Freight Cars**. Bring your entry to the meeting **no later than 2pm** on **Sunday, April 16** in order for your entry to be considered in the contest.

## Rails to Pittsburgh 2023

May 4-7, Doubletree Hotel, Cranberry Twp., PA

Dennis Coglianese, Superintendent, Keystone Division

The Rails to Pittsburgh Mid-Central Regional Convention is 1 month away!

The Keystone Division is hosting the event and we will be welcoming guests from all divisions in the region as well as some that are traveling from other divisions. Many of you have already registered for the convention, but I want to appeal to any of you that are "on the fence."

Our division has a well-deserved reputation for hosting a great event and it is due to our members. There is still time for you to [register for the convention](#) and show your support. It would be great for our guests to meet you and meet as many of our members as possible. There is a Saturday-only registration available if you can't get free during the week.

Additionally, for those who have registered already, please be sure to join us for the banquet if you haven't already. There will be much for our division to celebrate, and I would like our members to be well represented at that event to share in that celebration.

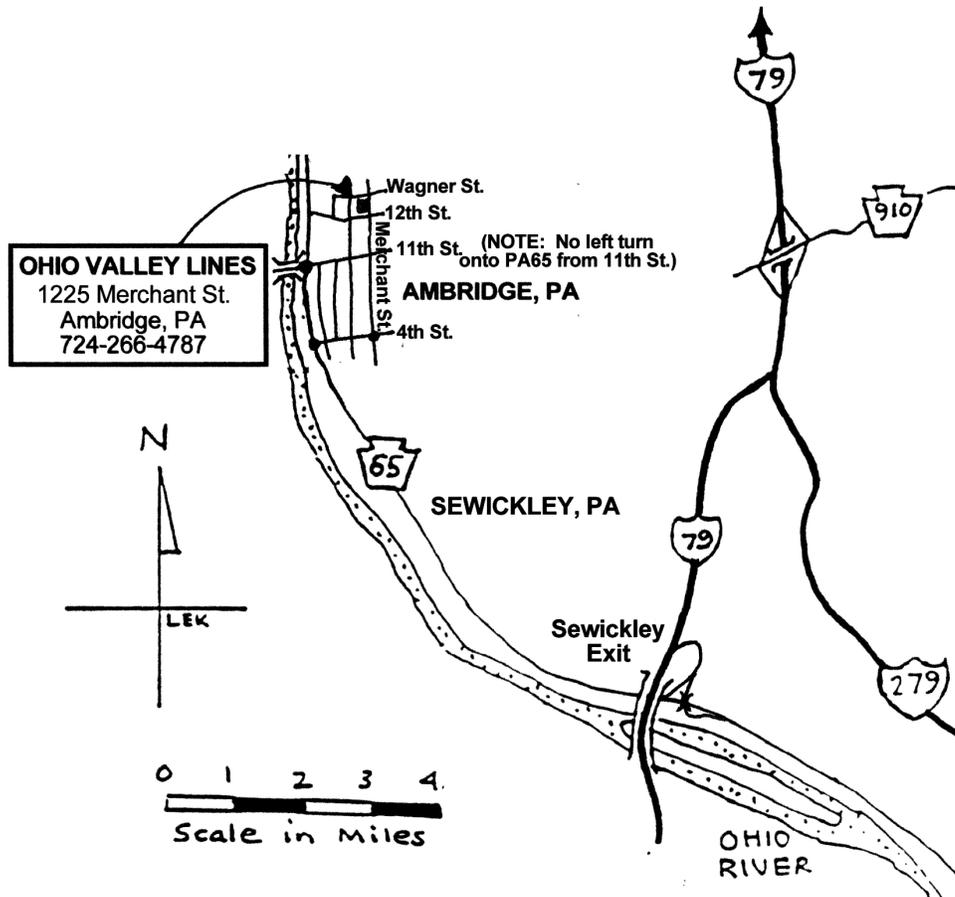
The [deadline for registering for the banquet](#) is April 21, although convention registration will remain open through May 6th.

Thank you for your support!

Register online at: "[www.keystonedivision.org/convention/registration.html](http://www.keystonedivision.org/convention/registration.html)"



# MEETING TIMETABLE



**April 16:**

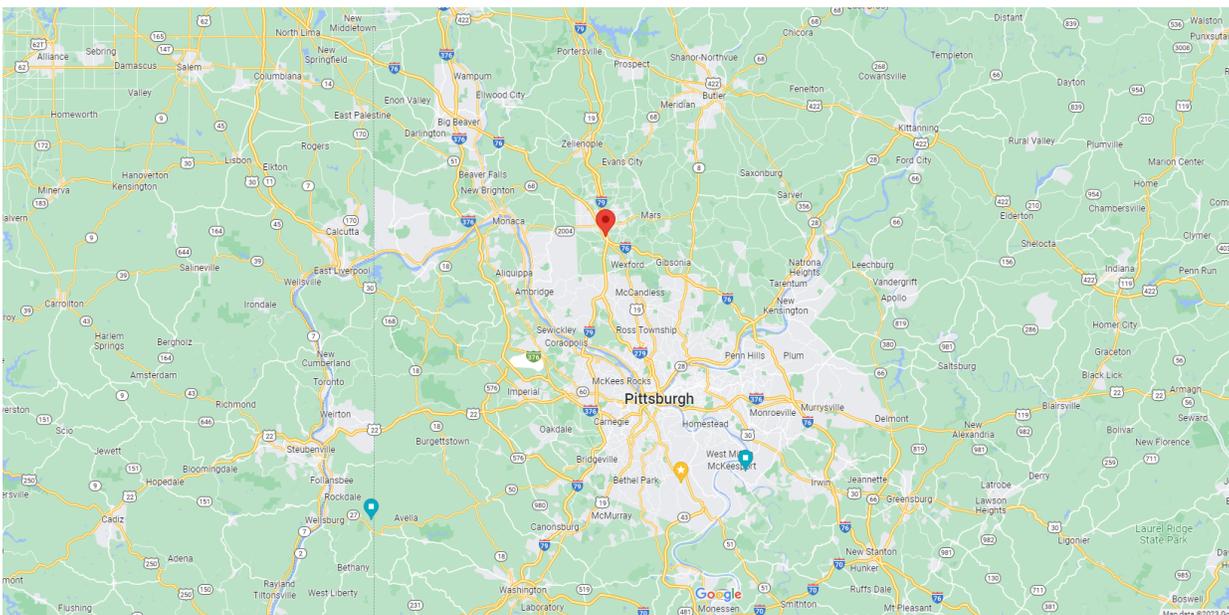
## **Ambridge, PA**

Our April meeting will be held at the Ohio Valley Lines Model Railroad Club (1225 Merchant Street, Ambridge, PA 15003). After the meeting, Neal Schorr will present a clinic on background painting, a preview of which you can find on page 12.

## **May 4-7: MCR REGIONAL CONVENTION**

### **Cranberry Township, PA**

The MCR Convention returns to the Pittsburgh area this year, as Division Two hosts in exurban Cranberry Township. For up-to-the-minute details, be sure to check out the [Convention page](#) on the [Division Two website](#). The site of the convention is the



Doubletree Hotel (910 Sheraton Drive, Mars, PA 16046). This is located on US Route 19, at the crossroads of two major Interstate Highways, the east-west I-76 (OH/PA Turnpike) and the north-south I-79.

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



NEXT MEETING:  
**April 16, 2023, Ambridge, PA: Ohio Valley Lines**

 <p><b>Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society</b>        128 Pleasant Street        Morgantown, WV 26505</p> <p>Meeting Thursdays at 7:00 PM  <a href="http://www.MVRRC.org">www.MVRRC.org</a>        Call Rich Henderson (304) 276-1046 for more info</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>Visitors Welcome  <b>MEMBERSHIP OPEN</b></p> <p>2209 Walnut Street        McKeesport, PA</p> <p>Open Wednesday &amp; Friday Evenings</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HO &amp; N Scale Layouts</li> <li>• T-TRAK Modular Display Layout</li> <li>• Extensive Library &amp; Video Collection</li> </ul> <p><b>OHIO VALLEY LINES</b>        1225 MERCHANT ST AMBRIDGE PA 15003</p> <p><a href="http://www.ohiovalleylines.org">www.ohiovalleylines.org</a> info@ohiovalleylines.org        Open Every Monday 7:30PM – 10:00PM Memberships available!!</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>        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</p>  <p>Visitors Welcome</p> <p>Worknights: Tuesdays 7:30  <a href="http://www.bcmrr.railfan.net">www.bcmrr.railfan.net</a></p>



### ***Round the Curve to Altoona***

October 19-22, 2023

<http://mer2023.org/index.html>

The Mid-Eastern Region's annual conventions rotate throughout the MER so that each geographic area will have a nearby convention on a regular basis. The host areas are North Carolina or Southern Virginia, Washington DC, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Eastern New Jersey. Pennsylvania is the selected area for our 2023 convention with the Susquehanna Division 11 as host.

The previous two conventions held in Pennsylvania were in King of Prussia and in Harrisburg. We wanted to find a host city that was farther to the west, and it was not difficult to identify Altoona as an ideal place to hold this convention. A very successful MER convention was held there in 2000. In 2000, the host hotel was the Altoona Sheridan which is now called the Altoona Grand Hotel under its new management. It was again selected as the host hotel for our 2023 convention.

Jerry Lauchle, MMR was appointed chairman of the Local Convention Committee (LCC) in February 2022. Jerry plans to attend the MCR Convention we are hosting in Cranberry this May, on Friday and Saturday, to present information about their plans for Altoona 2023. Watch the Keystone Flyer throughout this year for more information about this convention, and other exciting upcoming prototype and model railroad events.