



Editor's Model of the Month

And now, for the **THIRD** month in a row, Rick Montgomery won first place in the Bring'n'Brag model contest. This time the category "Freight Cars" brought out the entrants, with a total of eight models entered in the contest in April, held at the Ohio Valley Lines model railroad club in Ambridge. He titled this model "Sold to Steel" - the fate of this Penn Central N5c cabin car (a Bowser model), riding to its fate at the end of the line atop a Conrail flatcar (by ConCor). Rick added eye hooks and chain to the cabin car, and he weathered it and the flatcar with Monroe Models powders and Testors paint markers. See the other fine models entered in April's contest on page 5.

Meeting Schedule

May 4-7, 2023 - MCR Regional Convention
 Doubletree Hotel Cranberry
 910 Sheraton Drive
 Mars, PA 16046
Meeting to be held during the Convention

June 25, 2023 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm
 Greater Tri-Town Area Historical Society
 203 Howell Street
 Dawson, PA 15428
 Program: Andy Blenko, "Trains across the Pond"

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

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*:
 May 14, 2023

Visit us online at
keystonedivision.org



From the Super's Desk

By the time you read this column, the Mid-Central Region Rails to Pittsburgh Convention hosted by our division will be underway.

After more than a year of planning and preparation, we will host over 150 members of the Mid-Central Region at our event. We have 50 clinics, 7 Operating Sessions, and more than 25 layouts ready for our guests.

I want to thank Keith DeVault for his leadership of the convention committee and all the committee members that put in lots of time and effort to plan this event. We are a volunteer organization, but all involved put in real work to get this done.

I'm particularly excited that two of our members will receive their Master Model Railroader certificates from the Mid-Central Region leadership at the convention banquet. Susan Werner and Richard Turton have achieved something special, and they will receive the recognition they have earned!

I'm also very happy with the participation of the Keystone Division membership attending the convention. This is our home field and I'm glad to see that so many of our members are attending. I hope you all can meet up with members of the other divisions and welcome them to the 'Burgh!

... *Dennis Coglianese*

**MCR Convention:
Rails to Pittsburgh 2023
May 4-5-6-7**

**Doubletree Hotel
Cranberry Twp., PA**

It's never too late to get on board!

Division Elected Officers

Superintendent

Dennis Coglianese
(412) 418-9150

DJCoglianese@comcast.net

Asst. Superintendent

George Pandelios
(717) 503-3192

gpandelios@verizon.net

Chief Clerk

Mike DeSensi

(412) 613-4383

chiefclerk.div2@gmail.com

Division Appointed Officers

Treasurer

Jeff Gregg
(724) 348-5855

jwg625@comcast.net

Company Store

Susan Werner
(724) 379-8584

swerner48@yahoo.com

Webmaster & Membership

Tom Gaus
(412) 731-8846

webmaster@keystonedivision.org

Keystone Flyer Editor

Patrick Altdorfer
(412) 559-3079

patrick.altdorfer@gmail.com

Achievement Program

Dennis Vaccaro, Chair
(724) 929-2190

vaccaro_dennis@yahoo.com

Susan Werner, Asst. Chair
(724) 379-8584

swerner48@yahoo.com

Bring'n'Brag

Tracy Boyd
(410) 919-7115

Richard Terek
rjtgbg1@comcast.net

Convention Committee

Keith DeVault
(304) 599-5261

devaultkj@comcast.net

Jamboree Committee

Grier Kuehn
gekuehn@comcast.net

Neal Schorr
naskss@yahoo.com

Modular Layouts

FreeMo (HO scale)

Patrick Altdorfer
patrick.altdorfer@gmail.com

T-Trak (N scale)

Richie Jodon | Jim Braum
richjodon30@gmail.com
jimmy_braum@yahoo.com

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.

April 16, 2023 Business Meeting

Assistant Superintendent George Pandelios opened the April division meeting at 2:31pm.

He thanked the Ohio Valley Lines Railroad Club for hosting the meeting. OVL Secretary Mike DeSensi spoke on behalf of the club and welcomed the division members.

Pass the Hat: Jeff Gregg passed the hat.

New members and/or guests: One new member was present: Kevin Squire. Kevin is an N scale modeler with an interest in the Durabond Pipe Mill in McKeesport/Old USS rolling mill and Durabond as the owner of the "Turtle Creek Industrial Railroad."

Keith DeVault moved, and Richard Turton seconded, a motion to accept the March meeting minutes as published in the April Keystone Flyer. The motion passed unanimously. Thanks to Keith DeVault for taking the minutes in the Chief Clerk's absence.

Committee Reports

Keystone Flyer – Patrick Altdorfer stated that the May Flyer submission deadline is April 23. Patrick noted that a volunteer will be needed to handle the June Flyer since he will be traveling on vacation.

Treasurer – Jeff Gregg reported that the division is solvent. Andy Blenko noted that the Convention account is all good and up to date.

Programs – George Pandelios announced that there will be a brief membership meeting at the Convention, time and place to be announced. The June meeting will be held at the Tri-Town Historical Society in Dawson, PA. No meeting in July and the Picnic will be held at the usual location, Henle Park in Leetsdale on August 20. George also noted that all venues for the remainder of the year are finalized, however, programs are needed for some.

Website & Membership – Tom Gaus noted that the Division membership is currently 202. The Convention website is about 95% up to date.

Free-Mo – Patrick Altdorfer stated that Dave Martinelli is building more modules for the group and those modules *MAY* be at the Convention. Patrick also noted that the Greenberg Show date will be August 5 & 6 at the Monroeville Convention Center.

Bring & Brag – Thanks to Arley Mitchell for handling the Bring-n-Brag for the meeting with 8 entries in the Freight Car category. 1st place went to Rick Montgomery; there was a multiple entry tie for 2nd place, Mike DeSensi, Richard Turton, and others; 3rd place went to Jimmy Braum. Chief Clerk's note: The listed names for 2nd place are probably incomplete. Corrections can be brought up at the next meeting.

Video Library – Andy Blenko noted that there has been no progress on a committee to oversee the restructuring of the video library program.

Achievement Program – Dennis Vaccaro presented Assistant Superintendent George Pandelios with a Merit Award. Ray Helster received 5 Merit Awards. Finally, Richard Turton was presented with his Master Model Railroader plaque. Richard had the following comments about getting his award: "The best thing about getting my MMR was so that Dennis Vaccaro would stop bugging me! But, really, I did it for my own interest and pleasure. And I would strongly suggest everyone to pursue the Master Model Railroader award." Congratulations to all!

T-Trak – Richie Jodon stated that final details for the Convention T-TRAK layout are being completed. The layout will be a large E shape with 100+ modules. Richie noted that right now there are more modules than space available.

Company Store – Susan Werner said that lots of NMRA merchandise is available, such as pins, belt buckles, patches, and Standards Gauges. There is also a recently rediscovered stash of City Classics Porch Swing kits available.

MCR Regional Convention – Keith DeVault, Convention Chairman, said there are currently 200+ registrations for the Convention. Final cutoff for Banquet meal purchases is this week. The Operating Sessions are about 85% full. There will be a Meet & Greet (and cash bar) Thursday evening. Steve Ross commented that there are over 50 clinics lined up. Grier Kuehn briefly explained that a Volunteer Desk will be set up next to the Registration table to help facilitate getting volunteers where they need to be. There will also be a Contest Judging clinic on Thursday at 1pm. Dennis Vaccaro stated that the Convention polo shirts are in, there are some very red hats available, the HO cars have shipped, and he has all the necessary computers, projectors, PA systems, etc. lined up for the Convention. Patrick Altdorfer noted that barring any further changes to the Convention Program booklet, it will be going to the printer on Monday. Susan Werner reminded everyone to bring two copies of their White Elephant sales listings; one for management and one for yourself.

Old Business - None.

New Business - None.

For the Good of the Division

Assistant Superintendent Pandelios noted the passing of Division Two member Louis Bier, on March 13, 2023.

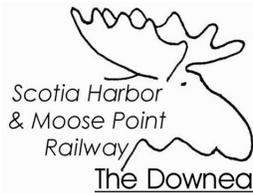
Andy Blenko asked for a recommendation for a billboard sign with scaffolding; Bar Mills and Blair Line were recommended.

Dave Martinelli has a CSX Operations manual if anyone wants it.

Next meeting will be at the Convention, with date and time to be announced.

Keith DeVault moved, and Richard Turton seconded, a motion to adjourn, which passed unanimously at 3:10pm.





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

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John W. Wesner
Owner & Chief Engineer
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MJC + LRR

RH Montgomery: Owner & Chief Engineer
Ohio River Northern Railway Club
Northern Division

"The Route of Steel Country"

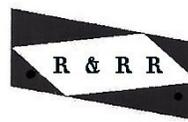


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fredron@zoominternet.net



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Kathleen A. Nastase - Train Wifey ... R.I.P.
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gpnastaseo2jzo@gmail.com

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AND
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CONTACT
JOEL EVERLY
(740) 282-9854
NEW MEMBERS
WELCOME

OHIO RIVER NORTHERN RAILWAY CLUB

Bring'n'Brag

Tracy Boyd/Richard Terek



Terry Stuart tied for 2nd place with this entry, ABOX #51234 from the Railbox pooled fleet, his portion of a "dealer's pack" of cars he shared with some friends. Terry weathered this boxcar quite heavily using artist's oil paints.

May 2023

Thank you to Arley Mitchell for filling in for Tracy and myself this month. The Bring'n'Brag category for April's meeting was "Freight Cars." There were eight (8) entries submitted for voting. The winners were:

1st Place went to Rick Montgomery for his entry of "Sold to Steel," an HO scale PC cabin car which featured a weathered caboose chained to a flatbed car (photo on the Flyer cover [again!]).

For **2nd Place**, there was a 4-way tie between:

Mike DeSensi - for his entry of a 40' composite gondola (N scale);
 Terry Stuart - for his entry of a weathered ABOX 51234 boxcar (HO);
 Richard Turton - for his entry of a weathered open hopper car (HO); and
 Bob DiBenedetto - for his entry of a 50' insulated Steel Boxcar ORNRY Group (HO).

3rd Place went to Jim Braum for his entry of a 3D printed, painted, detailed, and weathered Pittsburgh & West Virginia Railway N scale gondola (pictured below).



Mike DeSensi added Z scale couplers and a 3D printed load to this N scale composite gondola, then weathered it with Pan Pastels.



Richard Turton entered this scratch-built open hopper car, which he then also super-detailed and weathered, and this deserves an article of its own in these pages or in the model railroad press. What'ya say, Richard?



Bob DiBenedetto brought this pair of boxcars that Accurail made for the ORNRY Bunch model railroad group of southeastern Ohio.

MEMBERS ARE REMINDED THAT ONLY 1 ENTRY CAN BE SUBMITTED PER CONTEST!

Name	pts
Rick Montgomery	9
Joel Everly	3
Bob DiBenedetto	2
Mike DeSensi	2
Terry Stuart	2
Richard Turton	2
Susan Werner	2
Rick Bennett	1
Jim Braum	1



- Rick Terek



Two other cars were entered as well: a scratch-built logging flatcar (details overleaf), and this N scale tank car painted to match the whimsical Tootsie Roll tank car by Lionel (above).

There is no Bring'n'Brag contest in May this year, due to the MCR Convention. If you have one or more models that you would like to enter into competition at the convention, please see the [convention pages](http://keystonedivision.org/convention/contests.html) (keystonedivision.org/convention/contests.html) for details about the MCR-judged model contests and the People's Choice (popular vote) contests to be held this year.

Achievement Program News

Unfortunately, neither the editor nor Arley Mitchell, who filled in as Bring-n-Brag coordinator in April, managed to get better photographs of the two cars that Richard Turton entered in the contest than the ones I managed to snap here.



However, Richard did provide an exhaustive description of the steps he took to scratch-build these freight cars, and speaking as editor, I hope that he will consider submitting an article to the Flyer to explain how he built these cars, as they are great examples of why he just earned the AP certificate of “Master Builder—Cars” (photo below).



If you were at the meeting, you heard Richard’s words of encouragement about the Achievement Program after he received his MMR (#734) certificate from Dennis Vaccaro (photo left). Keep an eye out for Richard’s work in the future, and you can hear about other him at the MCR convention if you attend his clinic at the convention on 3D Resin Printing (Thursday, 8:30pm).



In other achievement program news, George Pandelios received an AP Merit Award for Structures (left) for his Ohio River Bridge, which was on display and judged at his home after our January meeting.



And Ray Helster received an impressive *five* Merit Awards in the category Structures (select pictures bottom left and right), in recognition of his outstanding modeling of a Farm Site, Barn, Ferguson House, Crew House, Covered Bridge, and Log Home, putting Ray well on the way toward earning an MMR as well.



Dennis Vaccaro pointed out that the membership of Division Two is has one of the most active and engaged in participating in the Achievement Program, and he urged us to keep it up and for more members to join in the fun.

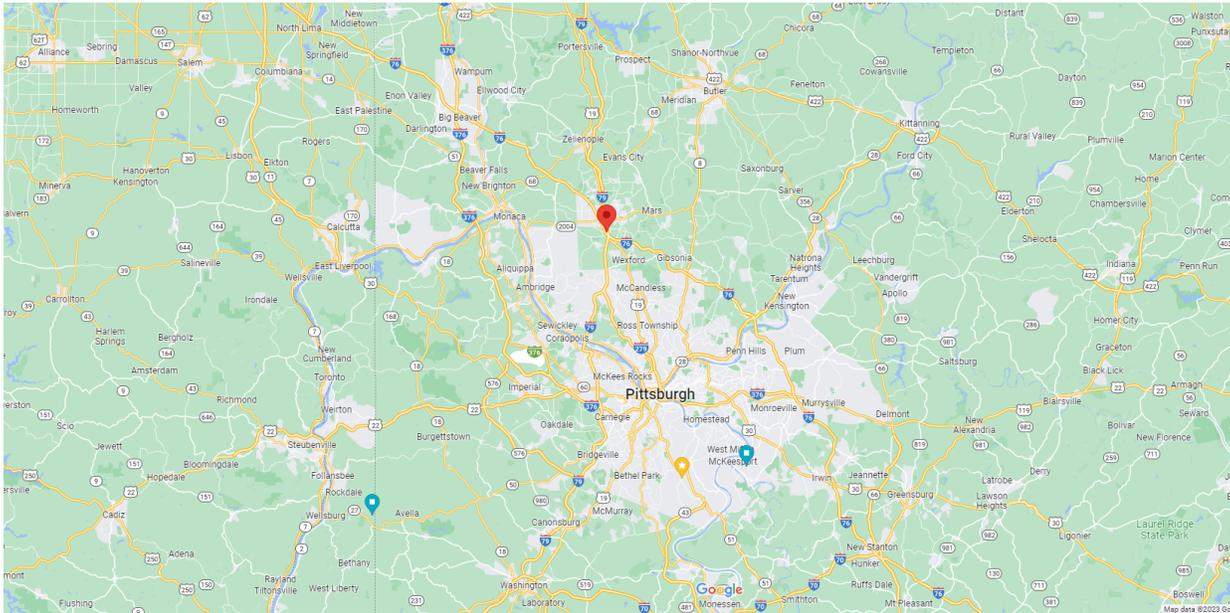
- Editor



MEETING TIMETABLE

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

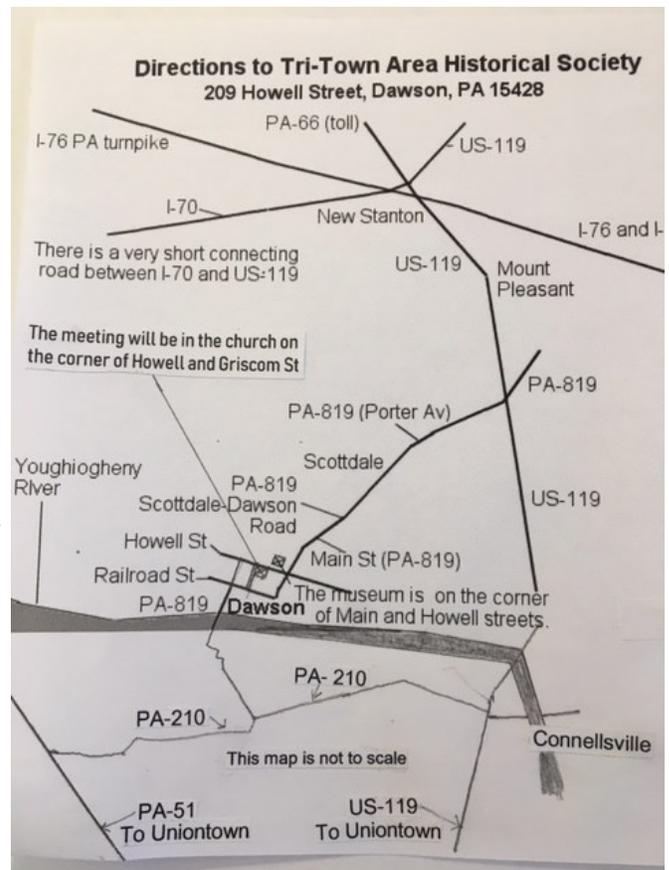


Doubletree Hotel (910 Sheraton Drive, Mars, PA 16046). This is located on US Route 19, at the crossroads of two major Interstate Highways, the east-west I-76 (OH/PA Turnpike) and the north-south I-79.

June 25: Tri-Town Area Historical Society Dawson, PA

The division returns in June to the Tri-Town Historical Society (203 Howell Street, Dawson, PA 15428), where we last met for our May 2019 meeting (although some of you may have visited the layout on Jamboree Sunday last April). At the rear (wheelchair accessible), the building houses the Penn Creek Valley Railroad, a large S gauge freelanded layout designed to suggest the landscapes and industries of southwestern Pennsylvania in the approximate era of 1950-1962. The layout is curated by the Pittsburgh S Gaugers and is a fully scale (not hi-rail) display featuring a variety of commercial, kit, and scratch-built locomotives, rolling stock, and structures. The layout has been publicized in *Model Railroader* and *Classic Toy Trains*. The layout will be open for viewing from 12 Noon to 2pm and after the meeting.

The actual meeting will be held **across the street** in the social hall of the Philip Cochran Memorial Church (209 Griscom Street). The program this month is international in nature: Andy Blenko will present "Trains across the Pond" — a look at passenger rail service and the magnificent stations he saw on his 2022 trip to the United Kingdom.



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



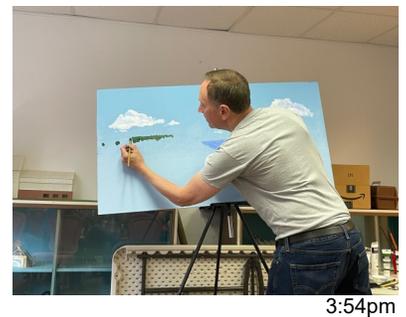
NEXT MEETING:
 At the MCR Regional Convention, May 4-7

 <p>Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society 128 Pleasant Street Morgantown, WV 26505</p> <p>Meeting Thursdays at 7:00 PM www.MVRRC.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>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HO & N Scale Layouts • T-TRAK Modular Display Layout • Extensive Library & Video Collection <p>OHIO VALLEY LINES 1225 MERCHANT ST AMBRIDGE PA 15003</p> <p>www.ohiovalleylines.org info@ohiovalleylines.org Open Every Monday 7:30PM – 10:00PM 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 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>

Clinic Dry-Run: Painting Backdrops

If you attended the March and April meetings, you have already seen Neal Schorr's "dry run" for timing of his 3-part clinic on backdrop painting, which he is presenting at the MCR Convention. He is presenting this triptych of clinics starting Friday afternoon with Part 1 (Theory, 1:00pm) and Part 2 (Praxis, 2:30pm) at the convention. And that evening, clinic attendees will have a chance to see Part 3 of Neal's clinic (the "big reveal") at his nearby home, where they will see the finished product that adorns his Pennsy Middle Division O scale layout (the building of which he is also presenting in his "Capturing the Commonwealth" clinic on Thursday at 4pm).

My perspective of Neal's dry run at the April meeting was not as good as that of Andy Blenko, who got some great shots of the painting in progress (photo series at right) that illustrate how Neal, within the space of just about an hour and 15 minutes, took a canvas he had pre-painted in two sky blue tones and transformed it into a landscape scene reminiscent of central Pennsylvania, complete with its gently rolling hills, distant mountains, a few clouds, some haze, and a farmer's field in the foreground. He explained which paints (brands and colors) and brushes he uses and why, as well as the techniques (both brush and sponge techniques) he uses to create various scenic effects and features. And Terry Stuart got a few good shots of the "final product" at the end of Neal's presentation (below). (We all know there is really no such thing as a "finished product" in model railroading, but you get the idea!)



If you missed these last few meetings and want to "brush up" on your painting skills to enhance your layout or module, be sure to catch Neal's clinics at the convention this week.





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.