

The Jamboree is April 13 — Have You Registered ?



January 2024

MCR
Div. 2

Vol. 66, Issue 01



Photo by Joe Yakubisin

Editor's Photo of the Month

Joe Yakubisin used his Canon Powershot digital camera to capture this image of DRGW No. 463, Type K-27, in July 2019 at Chama, New Mexico. This "Mud Hen" 2-8-2 locomotive operates daily on the 3-foot gauge Cumbres & Toltec Railroad, connecting 64 miles of track between Chama and Antonito, Colorado. Joe notes that the DRGW ordered 15 Baldwin locomotives in the early 1920s, and this is the only operating model of two survivors — the other being No. 464, owned by Michigan's Huckleberry Railroad, and currently undergoing an overhaul.

Meeting Schedule

January 21, 2024 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm
Venetia Heritage Center
800 Venetia Road
Venetia, PA 15367
Program: Jim Weinschenker, Waynesburg & Washington RR
Layouts: DARE Model RR Club; Ken Hanawalt

February 18, 2024 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm
Weirton Area Museum & Cultural Center
3149 Main Street
Weirton, WV 26062
Program/Layouts: TBD

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 / Steam / Electric / Traction
Mar	Railroad Structures / Commercial Structures
Apr	*** Model Railroad Jamboree ***
May	Bridges and Trestles
Jun	Photos (Prototype and Model)
Aug	Vehicles (at the Picnic)
Sep	Freight Cars
Oct	Non-Revenue (incl. cabooses)
Nov	Passenger Cars

Submission Deadline for next *Flyer*:
January 28, 2024

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From the Super's Desk

By the time you read this, the holidays will be a memory. I hope it was a happy time for all of you and that you enjoyed the holiday season.

The model railroad hobby and its association with Christmas got some great airtime in the Pittsburgh area. The local ABC affiliate WTAE ran two stories about local model railroad clubs and exhibits, calling to mind the long association of model trains to the holiday season. It was great to see these spots and they were rebroadcast several times.

My last column provided a description of the power member engagement brings to our organization. I'd like to share a firsthand account of the benefit of this to a model railroader; me.

Like many of you, my first model railroad experience occurred when I was about 5 and I got THE Christmas train-set. Then I got to see the Lionel layout that my grandfather was building. It was like I was inoculated with model railroading. But being young, I was alone with my hobby.

My father took me to see a layout built by a model railroad club (the West Island Model Railroad Club, Hicksville, NY). They didn't allow members until they were 21 years old, so I continued to model alone, but my head was full with what I saw.

Let me say that my modeling was pretty poor during this time. I modeled alone and didn't really have much spending money, so I banged away as a lone wolf until I turned 21.

At that point, I went down to the West Island Model Railroad Club's layout and asked to join. I learned that they had lowered the minimum age to 18! They let me join and I had a great couple of years as a member and learned a lot about model railroading. The nature of the club wasn't very engaging, but I got to work on a large layout.

A couple of years later I left the West Island Club and joined another club on Long Island (Nassau Model Railroad Club). I was a member of this club and got some new skills while there (still, not a really engaging organization) and then moved to Pittsburgh, where I knew nobody.

By my third week in Pittsburgh, I was a member of the Western Pennsylvania Model Railroad Museum. That exposed me to prototype model railroading on a grand scale for the first time.

That is three different organizations, each of which provided me with access to other modelers who helped me learn and improve my modeling skills. But I was still a lone wolf modeler in practice.

... continued on page 6

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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

November 19, 2023 Business Meeting

The MCR Division Two monthly business meeting was called to order by Superintendent Dennis Coglianesi at 2:30PM with 44 people in attendance.

Pass the Hat was started and Ray Helster with the Mid-Mon Valley Railroad Club thanked everyone for attending.

New members and/or guests – Brian Seip was a guest from the Dare Club of Venetia, Peters Township.

Minutes of the previous meeting were passed with a motion by Frank Benders and second by Tom Frommeyer.

Committee Reports

Keystone Flyer – Patrick Altdorfer stated that all articles are to be submitted by December 17th for the January issue..

Financial – Treasurer Jeff Gregg reported we stand in good shape and are able to meet our financial obligations. Andy Blenko was not present for the convention account and his report will be forthcoming in January.

Programs – Assistant Superintendent George Pandelios announced that the January Meeting will be at the Dare Club in Peters Township. Jim Weinschenker will be presenting a program on the Waynesburg and Washington Railroad. February will be at the Weirton Museum in Weirton, WV; and the March Meeting will be at the Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society in Morgantown, WV. April will be our annual Jamboree at CCAC Boyce Campus in Monroeville. He stills needs programs, so please volunteer to give a program of about 20 minutes.

Company Store – Susan Werner stated that Morning Sun Books is going out of the physical book publishing business in the coming year and will only publish electronic books. She has plenty of NMRA pins and City Classic Decals available.

Website – Tom Gaus was not present, but as the Superintendent stated everything is up on the website.

Membership – Ken Hanawalt reported we have 191 members on the roster. We added one new member at the Greenberg Show. Ken spoke about plans to develop a membership profile for new members (and possibly current members) and a membership guide. More will follow in the months to come.

Jamboree 2024 – Grier Kuehn reported that the plans for the Jamboree are proceeding. He will be asking members to deliver flyers to hobby shops and area model railroad organizations at the end of the meeting.

Free-Mo – Patrick Altdorfer reported that the application for the January Greenberg show has been submitted and is in process.

Bring & Brag – Rick Terek. Rick reported that he had 6 entries in Photo Category with First Place to Neal Schorr, Second Place to Jimmy Brahm and Third Place to Joe Yakubisin. He also stated the next year's Categories will be published in the January Flyer.

Video Library – Bud Brock not present. Since Bud has not been present for a number of meetings, Superintendent Coglianesi requested a volunteer to begin the process of compiling a list of the currently videos owned by the division. A plan will be developed at a later date.

Achievement Program – Dennis Vaccaro, AP chair, reported that he has not received the submissions back from national and has submitted 2 others for consideration for the program. If you think you qualify for a merit award, please talk to Dennis as he can help you achieve your success.

T-TRAK – Richie Jodon stated that he will be presenting a clinic at the Jamboree. He has a couple venues for T-Trak in December and has submitted an application to be present at the Greenberg Show in January.

Old Business - None.

New Business

Grier Kuehn spoke up about the donation from former member Marge Meehan who was a member of the division for many years. We all thanked her for her donation to the division members.

Susan Werner volunteered to be the chairman of the Nominating Committee for next year. Please let her know if you are interested in running for office.

Jimmy Braum was volunteered to be the Social Media Chairman to help members post things on Facebook and to increasingly give the division a presence on Facebook.

What's on your Workbench?

- George Pandelios is working on a highway overpass on his layout in Weirton, needs 20 feet of railings for the sides;
- Dennis Lippert is weathering Rapido Leigh Valley Caboose to Conrail Heritage;
- Rick Montgomery got 9 feet of a bridge from the Joel Everly Estate and is in the process of adding that to his layout; and
- Jimmy Braum is working on a new helix on his layout.

What's your Problem?

- Dave Martinelli is working on Free-Mo Modules for the different shows with him building a Bessemer and Lake Erie bridge in scale for the modules. He asked what problems lie ahead for him as he is trying to duplicate the Allegheny River Bridge.

The next meeting will be at the DARE Club in Venetia, Peters Township in January. Dave Stanton spoke up that his club will have 5 different scale railroads in the building for our viewing pleasure.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.





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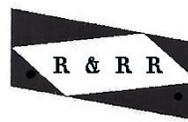


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OHIO RIVER NORTHERN RAILWAY CLUB

Bring'n'Brag

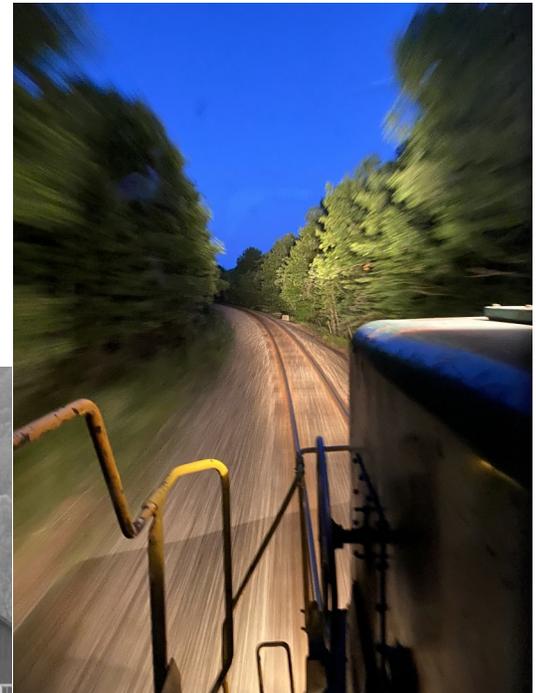
Tracy Boyd/Richard Terek

November 2023

There were six entries for the Bring and Brag category Photos. The winning entries this month were as follows:

In First Place - **Neal Schorr** with his photo of a night time cab ride (top right).

In Second Place - **Jim Braum** with his Black & White photo of EBT 2-8-2 Mikado steaming north with a string of empty hoppers taken in October 2023 (below left).



In Third Place - **Joe Yakubisin** with his photo of DRGW "Mud Hen" K27 463 in Chama, NM taken on July 2019 ready for duty on the Cumbres & Toltec RR (below and on the cover).

More entries can be found on page 9.



Jimmy Braum
Rockhill Furnace PA
10/7/23

BRING 'N' BRAG 2023: FINAL STANDINGS



Name	pts	Name	pts
Rick Montgomery	16	Bob DiBenedetto	2
Jim Braum	5	Terry Stuart	2
Bill DeFoe	3	Mike Hohn	2
Joel Everly	3	Terry Stuart	2
Alden McBee	3	Richard Turton	2
Grier Kuehn	3	Susan Werner	2
Neal Schorr	3	Rick Bennett	1
Patrick Aldorfer	2	Ray Helster	1
Mike DeSensi	2	Joe Yakubisin	1



The Bring'n'Brag contest category for January is "Anything Goes." Remember: All entries must be presented to the presiding Bring'n'Brag chair no later than 2:00pm in order to be considered.

Jamboree Contests

There is plenty of time to prepare entries for the contests and remember it couldn't be easier. Just like the monthly Bring and Brag, they are popular vote which means no paperwork and no judging. Here are the four categories:

- **Motive Power:** Any locomotive, whether diesel, steam, or electric;
- **Rolling Stock:** Anything that rolls on the rails, freight, passenger, cabooses, or MoW cars;
- **Structures:** literally any building, bridge, or right-of-way structure; and
- **Trains and Fantasy:** this year's whimsical fourth category takes in all things in the model railroading world plus anything from the superhero or monster fantasy world that can be placed on a mini-diorama no larger than 12" x 12". For full details and some photos for ideas go to the Division website at keystonedivision.org, click on the Jamboree logo and then "Contests."

The Jamboree is a great recruiting tool for Division Two and the NMRA

Recently Division Two has put an incentive program together for our members to recruit new members. How about this: Encourage your non-NMRA friends to register for the Jamboree. What a great way for them to see what the NMRA is all about. Then they can take advantage of the 9-month Rail Pass at no additional cost.

From the Super's Desk

... continued from page 2

One day, I visited a great, private layout. It was a 3 rail O Gauge layout, but strong on prototype modeling. The owner of that layout, Neal Schorr, encouraged me to join the NMRA. He said it was a great organization and I'd meet lots of modelers. So, I joined the NMRA.

I attended a few meetings, but time constraints and family commitments limited my involvement until I attended my second Division 2 Jamboree. I looked at the layout tour schedule and saw that Don Cassler's layout was on the tour and it was about 10 minutes from my house! I had admired that layout for years and jumped at the chance to see it.

When I got there, I was in awe with what he had built. One of the crew gave me a throttle and told me to run a train (I initially declined but his persistence finally overcame my shyness). I had a great time and got to speak to Don and asked if I could be a member of his crew.

This changed everything for me and model railroading. I attended ops sessions on the M&K for a couple of years and had several private lessons on photography and weathering from Don. The crew was a bunch of great people (many were Division 2 members) and I was learning all kinds of stuff from them. They reached out and helped and ENGAGED me!

When Don passed, the crew found out that I was starting to build a new home layout and asked if they could help. I of course accepted and for the last 7 years, these guys have been at my house helping me build my dream layout and being a great group of people.

While I had spent a lot of time in multiple model railroad clubs, the real payoff for me was joining the NMRA Keystone Division where I met a great group of people that engaged me in the hobby. It started with a simple conversation with Neal Schorr, meeting modelers including Don Cassler and the M&K crew, and having the opportunity to meet many great people and develop modeling skills.

None of this would have happened if I hadn't engaged with the division, which is where I developed all of these relationships.

This is why I want our members to engage with the organization. You will have multiple opportunities to meet other modelers and benefit from those relationships. Not only will you benefit, but other people will benefit by knowing you. This builds a chain of relationships that is very strong and beneficial to all involved.

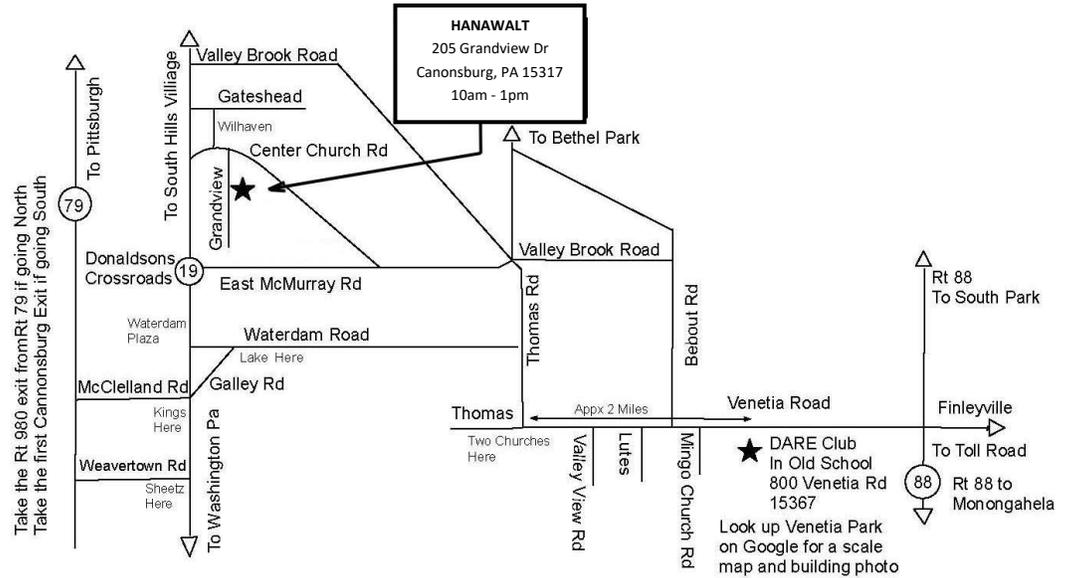
For those of you who haven't been to a meeting or event in a while, come join us and get involved. We'll all have a great time.

... Dennis Coglianese

MEETING TIMETABLE

January 21: D.A.R.E. Model RR Club, Venetia, PA

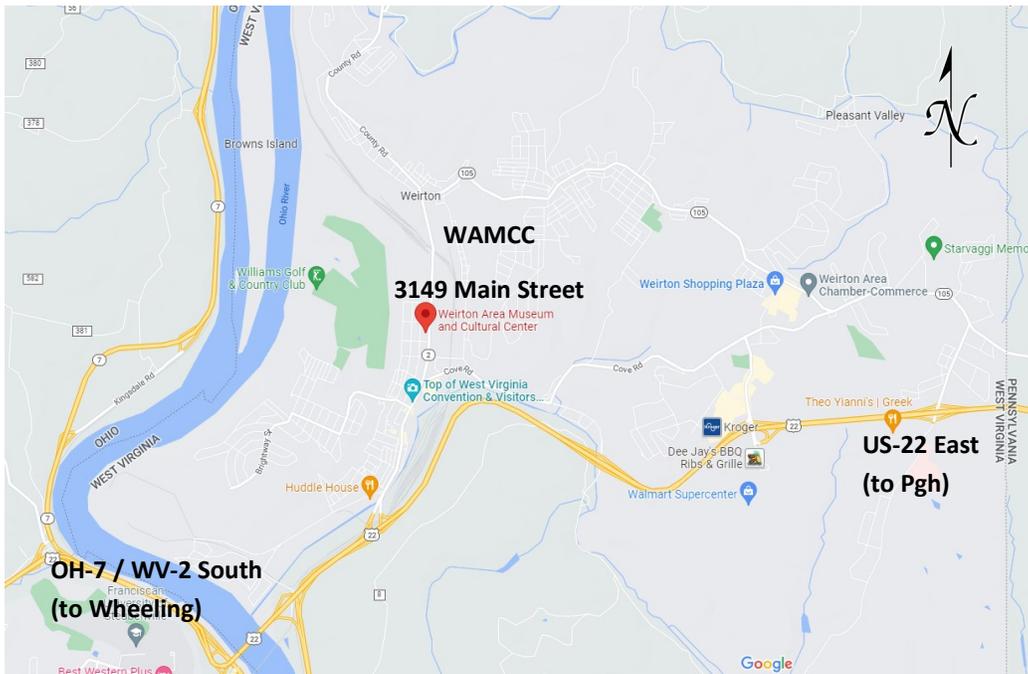
Our January meeting site is hosted by the D.A.R.E. Model Railroad Club at the **Venetia Heritage Center (800 Venetia Road, Venetia, PA 15367)**. The club boasts several model railroad layouts in N, HO, S, and O scales. Before the meeting (10am to 1pm), Ken Hanawalt will open his HO scale Turtle Creek Railroad (**205 Grandview Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317**) for “snappy service” before the meeting (10am to 1pm). After the meeting, we will be treated to a “Right-of-Way Tour” of the Waynesburg & Washington (narrow gauge) Railroad by preservationist Jim Weinschenker, with comments on the line’s history, stations, and locomotive and rolling stock fleet.



The maps provided are for general orientation; as always, **please use a real map (or GPS) to plan your trip.**

February 18: Weirton, WV

Our February meeting returns to the **Weirton Area Museum & Cultural Center (3149 Main Street, Weirton, WV 26062)**. At this writing, the editor has received no information about the program or local layouts that may host an open house.



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



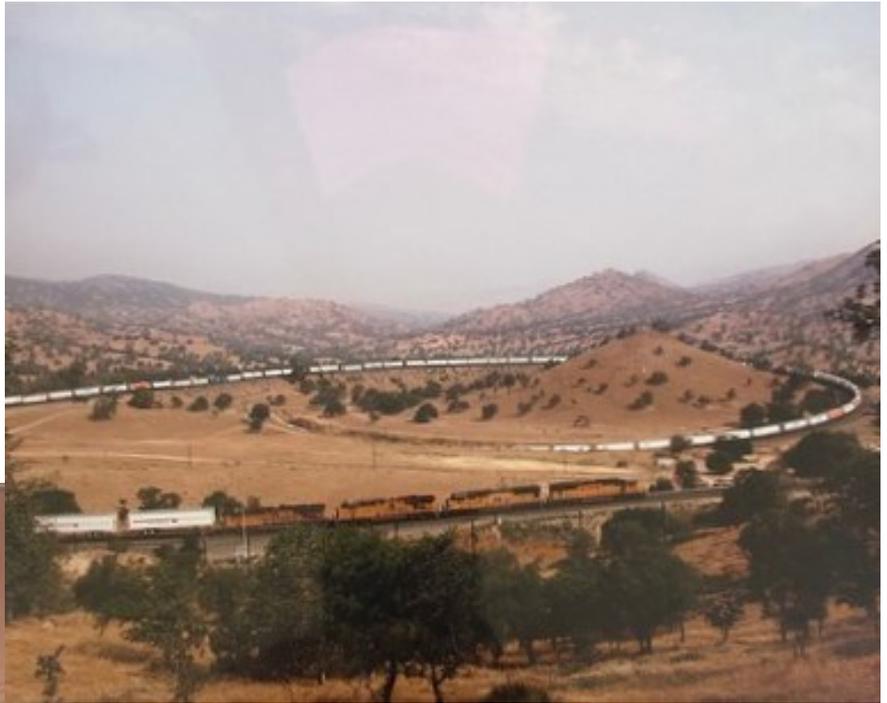
NEXT MEETING:
 DARE Model Railroad Club (Venetia Heritage Center), Venetia, PA, January 21

 <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>FRIDAYS 7pm-2am SUNDAYS 1pm-7pm</p> <p>2209 Walnut St. McKeesport. PA mckeesportmodelrr.com</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>

Bring 'n' Brag (continued)

There were three additional images submitted for the November contest category "Photos."

At right is a view of the Golden State's famed "Tehachapi Loop" of the Union Pacific Railroad, which the editor assumes was submitted by **David Grounds**, who used to live in the Bakersfield, California area.



At left is what appears to be a Santa Fe EMD diesel (F or E unit?) arriving in what may be Los Angeles. From the looks of the photo, the editor's best guess is this may have been taken by Mark Vinski, because it looks like the other vintage photographs he has submitted in the past.

At right is Erie caboose No. 04961, AAR Class NE caboose, Type M930, which the photographer captured with a Fujifilm Finepix S1000 digital camera (82mm zoom at 1/1548 sec.), which s/he "located in Mantua, Ohio at a station turned drug store. Erie -- EL — Conrail: All ran through Mantua. The tracks have long since been removed."



Port Royal in O Scale

by Neal Schorr

As many of you know, I am always taking random photos of my layout. Sometimes I share these photos on “O Gauge Railroading” - an internet forum for those interested in O scale and O gauge modeling and model railroading. To see posts there, you must set up an account, and anyone can join; navigate to the site [ogrforum.ogaugerr.com] if you are interested in doing so. I share under the handle “PRR Middle Division.”

One of the photos I recently shared on the forum is the one below, labeled Photo (1). I thought that it turned out particularly well, so I thought I would also share it with Division Two in the Keystone Flyer.



(1)

This photo is an image of the town of Port Royal and the PA Route 75 Bridge built by the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1910. The Port Royal station was built the same year, and it served passengers until the late 1940s. It was torn down by Penn Central in 1969. The model portrays the scene as it appeared in 1957.

I decided to compare it to a prototype image (Photo 2 overleaf) from the Port Royal Bicentennial website, which is reproduced with permission.

Port Royal in O Scale



(2)

They were quite similar, so I decided to convert the color photo that I took to black and white and correct the color tones as much as possible to match the prototype image. Then I cropped both of them to resemble each other as much as possible (Photo 3). I think the corrected model photo pretty closely resembles the prototype photo, but you can judge for yourself.



(3)

Photos (1) and (3) by Neal Schorr; Photo (2) © PortRoyal200.com, used with permission.

by George Pandelios, Asst. Superintendent

Here are some tips for anyone thinking about presenting a short clinic for one of our division meetings. Doing a clinic is simple and following these tips will make it even easier:

- Pick a single, bounded topic that you are comfortable talking about
- Break your talk into 3 sections, as follows:
 1. Intro slide with topics (Tell the audience what you're going to tell them)
 2. One or two slides per topic (Cover the topics)
 3. Conclusion slide w/ topics you covered (Finish by telling them what you told them)
- Keep the length to 20-30 minutes; about 10-20 PowerPoint slides if you move along
- Q&A: Expect to get questions, and prepare answers to the Qs you most expect
- Bring along handouts or show-and-tell examples
- Use your slides as reference, but don't read them to the audience
- Practice giving your clinic and refine your timing

I am always on the lookout for meeting clinics and I am always available to help you create, review, or polish your clinic. My phone and e-mail are in the masthead, so please contact me if you have a topic you would like to present at a Division Two meeting

RAILWAY & LOCOMOTIVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

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The [Steel City Chapter](#) of [RLHS](#) hosts the Annual Meeting, May 15-19 at the Sheraton Hotel (Station Square)

Meeting highlights to include:

an Amtrak excursion to Altoona, with a tour of the East Broad Top Railroad
a rail-themed dinner (feat. PRR menus, screening of "The General" with live accompaniment)
shop tours: Union Railroad, Pittsburgh Regional Transit, NS Conway Yard, PA Trolley Museum
(venues and times are subject to change, but watch the Keystone Flyer for updates and more info)



Needed: Volunteers for the
[National Narrow Gauge Convention](#)
September 11 – 14, 2024
Greentree, PA

Contact: Susan Werner
Swerner48@yahoo.com