## August Picnic Details: pages 4 and 7





## Editor's Model of the Month

Grier Kuehn entered this photograph of P&LE 2804, entitled "On the Service Track," which he took on his home layout. To see the other entries for the June contest, turn to page 6.

### **Meeting Schedule**

August 18, 2024 - Picnic & Division 2 Meeting, 12 noon Henle Park Ferry and Broad Streets Leetsdale, PA 15056 Details: See page 4 inside

September 15, 2024 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm Schiappa Public Library 4141 Mall Drive Steubenville, OH 43952 Program: AMREC Model Train Club Layout: Bob DiBenedetto's "Midwest RxR"

#### Submission Deadline for next *Flyer*: August 25, 2024

Visit us online at keystonedivision.org

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: Bring'n'Brag

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

swerner48@yahoo.com



## From the Super's Desk

In my column last month, I congratulated the Jamboree Event team, led by Grier Kuhn and Neal Shorr, for a great job running the event. However, our post-game review exposed some

problems on the member participation side.

Attendance was down about 30% from the 2022 Jamboree. The number of models submitted for the popular vote contests was lower than usual. And the number of visitors for the layout tours was alarmingly low.

We hold the Jamboree annually so our membership has the opportunity to gather to learn new ideas, share ideas with others and demonstrate work they have done. We don't do it to raise money for the division (although we would like to cover our costs, which we always do).

We all approach our modeling differently. We all choose different prototypes, eras, locales, layout sizes. Some of us do all our modeling alone and others have a group that works on the layout. Some of us have operating sessions with varying styles, and some of us just enjoy watching their trains run.

I believe that whatever you are doing is more fun when you allow others to share what you are doing. I also believe that what you are doing is more fun when you meet with other modelers and learn something from them or from clinics.

For many years, I was a member of several model railroad clubs, but I was really a lone wolf modeler. Since I've been involved with this organization, I've met many great people and learned so many more things that have allowed me to get more enjoyment from the hobby. I have regular ops sessions with a group of modelers that are my favorite day of the month (even my wife says that!). I can firmly say that it's much more fun to participate than to do it on my own.

I accept that some of us may have had a bad experience at one of these events. There is always a chance that in any given gathering, you might encounter someone that rubs you the wrong way. We human beings are a complex bunch of personalities and emotions and we don't all behave the way we should all the time.

But know that our organization exists to provide its members with the opportunity to interact with others in a way that is beneficial to all members. Don't let a bad experience keep you from participating in our activities. We will work hard to make it fun for all members. Come and join us !

The Board of Directors and Jamboree Committee are looking for ways to improve these statistics as well as other things we can do to increase member engagement. I personally would like to hear from anyone that has a suggestion or complaint. Send me an e-mail (my address is on the masthead at right) and I promise to keep your identity private.

... Dennis Coglianese

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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

# Minutes

## Keith DeVault

#### June 23, 2024 Business Meeting

Meeting called to order by Superintendent Dennis Coglianese at 2:30 p.m. at the Marshall Township Building in Wexford, with 40 members in attendance. The host Neal Schorr was recognized and he thanked everyone for coming and visiting the 3 layouts that were open. Pass the hat was started.

No new members and one guest being Wesley Tipton from Shadyside, Ohio.

Minutes from last meeting were moved by Susan Werner and Second by Mark Vinski, Minutes were approved as printed.

#### Committee Reports

Keystone Flyer – Patrick Altdorfer stated that the Keystone Flyer deadline will be July 7th.

Jeff Gregg as Division Treasurer stated we are in good financial standings and able to meet the obligations of the Division.

George Pandelios as Assistant Superintendent announced that the annual picnic will be held on Sunday August 18<sup>th</sup> at Henle Park in Leetsdale, Pa. Please email him if you are coming and what dish you will be bringing no later than August 11th.

Susan Werner as Company Store announced that convention shirts and cars are available for sale. Trackside Book by Richard Flock will be available in November, so if you would like to purchase the book, please let her know. She also has samples of the products in the company store that she is carrying so if you need anything please visit with her after the meeting. She also announced that JW Snyder donated Atlas Code 83 switches that will be for sale at the company store.

Ken Hanawalt as Membership Chairman announced that the membership is now at 212.

Tom Gaus as Webmaster was not present but his report to the Super stated that all pages are up to date except the Bring'n'Brag for last month.

Jimmy Braum as Social Media Chairman asked everyone to send information to him so he can get the information posted.

Patrick Altdorfer as Free-Mo Chair said that his group is pending for the August 3rd and 4th Greenberg Train Show.

Rick Terek as Bring'N'Brag Chairman announced that he had 7 entries for this month's category of Photos. Third Place Tie between Mark Vinski, Neal Schorr and Jimmy Braum; Second Place to Grier Kuehn; and First Place to Ray Helster. He thanked everyone that entered and hope more division members entering the contests.

Bud Brock as Video Library was not present and no report was available.

Jimmy Braum for T-Trak they will not be at Greenberg Show in August, but is pending for the show in January or February. Always looking for new members and hopes to expand the HO- Trak layouts, and if you need help with T-Trak or HO-Trak please contact him.

Grier Kuehn and Neal Schorr as Jamboree Chairman spoke that the new Venue worked out ok, the location was good and they raised the question about Layout Tours which will be discussed at a later date. They both asked about stepping up to Volunteer. It was announced that the Jamboree had 91 members and 14 guests.

Dennis Vaccaro with the Achievement Program gave out 3 merit awards today, to Mike Hohn, Jimmy Braum, and John Dramm.

Old Business - None.

New Business - None.

#### For the Good of the Division

It was announced that a friend of the division Forrest Lucas passed away from Altoona.

Mark Vinski announced that a member Jim Kubanick is now in an assisted living home and that he has taken Jim's train inventory and will be selling it off with over 2000 items, lots of resin kits and other items. Please see him or Dennis Coglianese for a listing of the items.

Jimmy Braum spoke about East Broad Top and that they are 1.5 miles south of the station with track and the run will start soon.

Steve Ross as RPM Chairman sent a note to the Superintendent that he has in his possession Large Cloth Screens for the Division.

It was announced that Model Railroad Hobbyist will be forthcoming on articles on the Following Layouts: Bob Prehoda, Neal Schorr, Ken Hanawalt and the Ohio Valley Lines, both HO and N Scale.

#### What's on your Workbench?

- Dave Martinelli is working on electric for FreeMo Modules;
- Larry Willming has new software that he is working on for new projects;
- JW Snyder got JMRI and is learning the software;
- Dave Stanton from the Dare Model RR Club is working on new decoders for the club;
- Ken Hanawalt announced that he has a collection of magazines if anyone needs some;
- Denny Lippert worked on a Genesis F Unit whose motor was gummed up and is trying to get it clean;
- Jimmy Braum is changing switches on his layout and is building a structure from a kit;
- Dennis Coglianese is doing scenery and using grout for dirt instead of ground foam.

Meeting adjourned at 3:18 p.m.



## PICNIC TIME !!

Our annual picnic meeting is **Sunday, August 18** at our usual location, **Henle Park in Leetsdale** (map on page 7). As well as train-watching, the Splash Pad will be available for children of all ages.

**If you're attending**, please RSVP to me via e-mail (<u>gpandelios@verizon.net</u>) <u>no later than August 11</u>. Make sure to include how many people will be in your party and what food (side-dish or dessert) you will bring. Bring 1 serving for every item you will put on your plate (usually 6) times the number in your party.]

And as is standard procedure, the Division will supply the meat, bread, sodas, and water.

Please Volunteer. In order to make the picnic a more enjoyable event for everyone (including those help-

ing), I am asking for volunteers to assist in these areas (so far):

**Set-up Crew**: 3-4 folks to handle table set-up, garbage bags, utensils, prepare the grill, and basically get the party started. **Coolers & Ice**: We need 4 people to sign up to bring a good-sized cooler with ice.

**Cooks**: We will need 4 folks who will rotate in this duty. Burgers and dogs are on the menu.

**Tear-down Crew**: 3-4 folks to handle clearing up the tables, putting out the cooking fire and disposing of the ashes, picking up any stray trash, etc.

Please either <u>sign-up on the sheet at the June meeting</u> or <u>send me an e-mail</u> to let me know where you can help. There is a lot of equipment and food to transport to this event, so help is needed there as well.

And please don't hesitate to contact me with suggestions or questions.

George Pandelios Assistant Superintendent

## Achievement Program

Dennis Vaccaro announced merit awards to two members in absentia (**Mike Hohn** and **John Dramm**), and he presented a merit award to **Jimmy Braum** for Cars for his W&LE Railway Business Car #1990.



## In Memoriam

**Forrest Lucas**, a Mid-East Region member from Johnstown, passed away peacefully at home from cancer on January 23, 2024. He lived closer to our Division than he did most of the meetings in his own Region, so he opted to come to our meetings and hang out with us. He was well known to most of us older members. Forrest had been involved in the various NMRA groups since the 1960s. Through his battle with cancer, he was so positive, helpful to everyone, and always had a good outlook on everything. The hobby kept him going, and he so enjoyed being with everyone.



## Bring'n'Brag

Rick Terek / Dominic Martinelli

The June Bring and Brag category was photos related to Prototype and Models. We had 8 entries: 7 for judging and one for display only.

The top spot went to Ray Helster for his "Somewhere in PA" photograph (top right).

The second place winner was Grier Kuehn for his photo (featured on page 1) of P&LE 2804 — a GE U28B, or "U-boat" — "on the service track" on his home layout.

We had a three way tie for **third place**! The winners were:



Neal Schorr for his photo of PRR FA's at Port Royal (left);

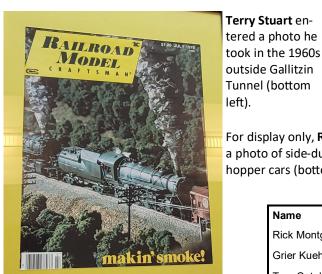
Jim Braum for his photo "North to Mt. Union" on the EBT (right); and

Terry Stuart entered a photo he

Mark Vinski for his photo (below) "makin' smoke!" on the cover of the RR Model Craftsman, July 1978 issue (article by Don Cassler); and









For display only, Rick Reichenbach brought a photo of side-dumping ballast spreading hopper cars (bottom right).

| Name            | pts |
|-----------------|-----|
| Rick Montgomery | 7   |
| Grier Kuehn     | 8   |
| Tom Catalano    | 4   |
| Arley Mitchell  | 4   |
| Erik Fritzberg  | 3   |
| Ray Helster     | 3   |
| Steve Ross      | 3   |
| Richie Jodon    | 2   |
| Jim Braum       | 2   |
| Neal Schorr     | 2   |
| Mark Vinski     | 1   |



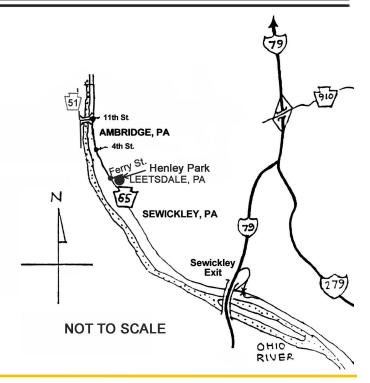
The Bring'n'Brag contest this month, to be held at the picnic, is in the category Vehicles. All entries must be presented to the Bring'n'Brag chairs no later than 2pm in order to be considered.

## **MEETING TIMETABLE**

## August 18: Henle Park Leetsdale, PA

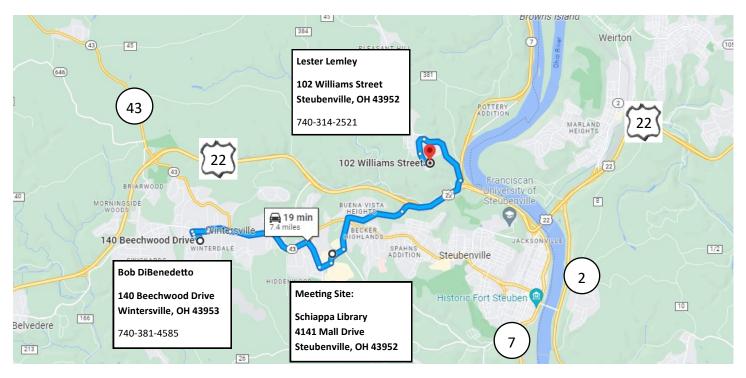
Our meeting this month is usually brief, since we hold it during our Annual Picnic. Once again, thank you to John Gallagher, who again secured Henle Park for our picnic & meeting, and to George Pandelios, who is (again) the organizing force behind the picnic. Please see his notice on page 4 for how you can help to make this a fun event. Come out to enjoy the warm weather and some train-spotting, across the road (PA Route 65) from the PRR tracks (which now belong to a different railroad). Besides the delicious food, we also hold a short business meeting, as well as have a Bring'n'Brag contest (topic: Vehicles).

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



## September 15: Schiappa Library Steubenville, OH

Our September meeting returns to Steubenville's Schiappa Library (**4141 Mall Drive, Steubenville, OH 43952**), to be followed by a program about the AMREC Model Train Club of Coshocton, Ohio. Thanks again to **Bob DiBenedetto**, who organized this locale for our meeting, and who will host an open house to view his HO scale "Midwest RxR" (**140 Beechwood Drive, Winterville 43953**) before the meeting, from **11am to 1:30pm**. Lester Lemley may also open his layout, but as of publication he has not confirmed with the editor; watch this space next issue for any update.



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



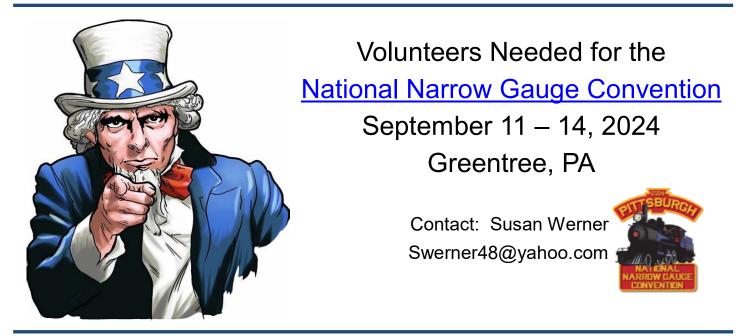
NEXT MEETING: Summer Picnic, Henle Park, Leetsdale, PA, August 18



## **Upcoming Shows and Conventions**

Greenberg Toy & Train Show Monroeville Convention Center 209 Mall Plaza Blvd Monroeville, PA 15146 Sat & Sun, August 3-4, 10am to 4pm <u>next scheduled dates:</u> Sat & Sun, Nov 2-3, 10am to 4pm Sat & Sun, Jan 4-5, 10am to 4pm

Now "back on again" at the MCC after the near loss of this venue, this is the largest local show that features model railroads and vendors (though heavy on the "toy" side). Division 2 members active in modular layouts often participate, including Free-Mo (HO), T-Trak (N), Pgh. S-Gaugers, among others.



### MRH FEATURES DIVISION TWO LAYOUTS

The *Model Railroad Hobbyist* — the free model railroading magazine published monthly online — devoted considerable space over several issues this year to highlight some detailed and great-running layouts around Division Two. The owner and publisher of the magazine, Joe Fugate, came to Pittsburgh for a week this spring, and he visited and wrote up five local layouts, which have been the featured articles in the magazine since March. He saw the two club layouts (HO and N scale) at the Ohio Valley Lines in Ambridge, plus three home layouts: Neal Schorr's O scale PRR Middle Division in Wexford, Bob Prehoda's HO scale Huntingdon Northern Railway out east, and Ken Hanawalt's Turtle Creek Railroad in South Hills. If you missed the series, see Mike DeSensi's page of links to the articles (overleaf), and come to the National Narrow Gauge Convention in September, which also features all of these layouts on the layout tour. Many of our members enjoy working on and/or operating these layouts, and it is a treat that MRC brought the fantastic work being done here to the broader attention of the model railroading community. Congratulations to those who were featured this time, and also to the dozens of others in Division Two who have dared to challenge our region's wet basement issue to build such pikes!

## **MRH** features Division Two layouts

### by Mike DeSensi

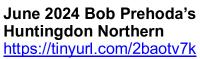
Model Railroad Hobbyist is a FREE, monthly magazine, published online. Recently, publisher Joe Fugate spent a week in Pittsburgh and visited 4 local layouts. Here are links to the issues. All of these layouts will be open for layout tours during the National Narrow Gauge Convention, September 11-14, 2024.

#### March 2024 Ohio Valley Lines HO Layout https://tinyurl.com/2ydbyuvd





May 2024 Ohio Valley Lines N Layout https://tinyurl.com/22pyvmqp



April 2024 Neal Schorr's Pennsyl-

vania RR Middle Division

https://tinvurl.com/2ar7996x









Middle Division

July 2024 Ken Hanawalt's **Turtle Creek Railroad** https://tinyurl.com/22oj54b3





44th National Narrow Gauge Convention https://www.44nngc.com/





## **2024 Incentive Rewards for Recruiting New Members**

## by Dennis Coglianese, Superintendent

For the entire year of 2024, we would like to encourage current members to seek out potential new members at train shows, hobby shops, clubs, or anywhere such candidates might be found. Division Two will reward members for any new members they recruit.

This is how the reward program will work:

- The current member tells the new member about the NMRA's RailPass program and that the division will pay for that RailPass if the following takes place:
- The new member will complete an application on the NMRA website and purchase a RailPass membership (the new member must save his/her receipt).
- The new member comes to a Division 2 meeting in one of the next 3 months that meetings are held.
- The new member is issued a check for the RailPass membership (\$19.99) when their membership is confirmed on the Division's Membership list provided by the Mid-Central Region on the first of each month and they have fulfilled the requirement to attend a Division 2 meeting. Note that if the new member enrolls in any other membership level, we will refund the cost of a RailPass membership.
- The recruiting member is issued a check for \$10.00 when the new member fulfills the requirement to attend a Division 2 meeting.

Since this Incentive Program will run for the full year, we are going to add 2 more incentives for our members.

At the end of 2024, any member who has recruited 3 or more new members who met the above requirements will receive a \$25 bonus.

At the end of 2024, any member who has recruited 5 or more new members who met the above requirements will receive a \$50 bonus.

Note, the bonuses cannot be stacked. Any member who is awarded the 5 recruits bonus will not (also) receive the 3 recruit bonus.

## Jamboree Item of Importance

### by Grier Kuehn and Neal Schorr Jamboree Co-Chairs

For those in attendance at June's Division 2 meeting this is a repeat. For those who were not there, please take note because it is of the utmost importance for the next Jamboree in 2025.

"It is a simple fact; the Jamboree is only successful because of the hard work of a handful of volunteers. Each year we thank them repeatedly for their time and hard work. It has now become apparent that we need to increase the number of volunteers to spread the workload."

That was the message at the meeting and the discussion that followed. We are now happy to report that several members came forward, stepped-up and took on some of the functions for the 2025 Jamboree. We are also happy to report that members who have served in vital roles for many years have agreed to continue in those roles. To all... Thank You!

Now here is the biggest challenge. We need one (and possibly two) member(s) to assume the responsibility for the Raffle in its entirety. Whoever accepts will not go into it having to reinvent the wheel. One "veteran" member will continue to help, all procedures are well documented and all necessary paraphernalia is on hand.

Filling this role is extremely important... the division needs this help. With over 200 members in Division 2, surely one or two will volunteer. To do so, please reach out to Grier Kuehn at <u>gekuehn@comcast.net</u> or at 412-496-1575.

## **Challenge to Division 2 Members**

### by Susan Werner, MMR

I am challenging all members of Division 2 to volunteer to perform at least one task for the benefit of Division 2. This can easily be accomplished by responding to requests for volunteers for the picnic (contact George Pandelios), for the Jamboree (contact Grier Keuhn or Neal Schorr), or other activities (contact any of the committee members listed on the masthead of the Keystone Flyer). I challenge you to find the best in yourselves and make your membership in this organization a more engaging experience.