

# Save the Date: Pittsburgh Model RR Jamboree: May 3, 2025



Photo by Dominic Martinelli

## Editor's Model of the Month

Rick Montgomery entered this unique CSX "Autonomous Geo Car" in the Bring'n'Brag contest last month at our meeting in Rochester, PA, and won first place in the popular vote as well. At the announcement of his winning entry, he told us about the purpose of such cars (proofing track geometry with the aid of a laser device mounted to the car chassis) and about how he created this car, based on his up-close inspection and photographs of the car he sighted "in the wild." (I hope this car sees that bad joint in the track just under the center of the car!) You can read more details on page 6 about Rick's model.

## Meeting Schedule

**November 17, 2024** - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm  
New Eagle VFD Social Hall  
156 Chess Street  
New Eagle, PA 15067  
Layouts: MMV Club, Sue Werner, Jimmy Braum  
Program: Swap meet; R. Jodon, "Electrical Safety"

**January 19, 2025** - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm  
Youngstown Model Railroad Club  
751 North Four Mile Run Road  
Austintown, OH 44515  
Layout: Club opens for us at 1pm

**February 16, 2025** - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm  
Weirton Area Museum & Cultural Center  
3149 Main Street  
Weirton, WV 26062

## 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*:  
December 8, 2024**

Visit us online at  
[keystonedivision.org](http://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:

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



## From the Super's Desk

November is National Model Railroad Month! Isn't it great that we have an entire month designated to celebrate our hobby!

As part of the celebration, why not share the hobby with others. There are lots of ways you can do this.

How about bringing a model to your workplace and displaying it on your desk? You'll get the chance to "show off" your work, but also share how interesting and varied the hobby can be.

How about holding an open house for your neighborhood. I know that the number of cars parked in front of my house on the second Saturday of the month has created a lot of talk among my neighbors. That probably goes for many of you. Why not invite them in to see what it's all about?

How about setting up some time to allow the neighborhood kids a chance to run a train on your layout?

How about a mini clinic for non-model railroaders? Help them build a simple kit or a little scenery. These don't have to be on your layout. Nothing fancy or complicated but just enough to allow them to see that they can do it and it's interesting.

We as model railroaders can celebrate among ourselves. Invite some fellow model railroaders over for a get together. Extra points if they aren't your regular crew members because you're all probably going to learn something new!

Don't forget to celebrate yourself! Build that car/building/scenery that you have been trying to get to and celebrate getting it done!

While we have one more membership meeting in November, this is my last message of the year. I want to wish you all the best for the upcoming holidays! Stay well! Model well! Have fun!

... Dennis Coglianese



See Tom Gaus' listing of holiday open houses on Div 2 website at: [keystonedivision.org/openhouses.html](http://keystonedivision.org/openhouses.html).

Keystone Flyer

### Executive Officers

#### Superintendent

Dennis Coglianese  
(412) 418-9150  
DJCoglianese@comcast.net

#### Asst. Superintendent

George Pandelios  
(717) 503-3192  
gpandelios@verizon.net

#### Chief Clerk (Acting)

Keith DeVault  
(304) 276-2509  
chiefclerk.div2@gmail.com

#### Treasurer

Jeff Gregg  
(724) 348-5855  
jwg625@comcast.net

### Line Officers & Committee Chairs

#### Webmaster

Tom Gaus  
(412) 731-8846  
webmaster@keystonedivision.org

#### Company Store

Susan Werner  
(724) 379-8584  
swerner48@yahoo.com

#### Keystone Flyer Editor

Patrick Altdorfer  
(412) 559-3079  
patrick.altdorfer@gmail.com

#### Membership

Ken Hanawalt  
(724) 941-3186  
hanawalt.ken@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

Richard Terek  
rjtgbg1@comcast.net

Dominic Martinelli  
dmartinelli1980@gmail.com

#### Model Railroad Jamboree

Grier Kuehn  
gekuehn@comcast.net

Neal Schorr  
naskss@yahoo.com

#### Modular Layouts

##### FreeMo (HO scale)

Patrick Altdorfer  
patrickaltdorfer@gmail.com

##### T-Trak (N scale)

Richie Jodon  
richjodon30@gmail.com

##### S-Mod (S scale)

Jim Whipple  
whipple@cmu.edu

Jim Braum  
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](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

## October 20, 2024 Business Meeting

Meeting called to order by Superintendent Dennis Coglianesi at 2:31 pm at the Rochester Area Museum and Heritage Center in Rochester, PA. Recognition of host Joe Long, who was not able to be present.

Pass the Hat was started.

New Members and/or guests: Dan Simanek, attending as a guest, was recognized and welcomed by the group.

Minutes of last month's meeting were moved by J.W. Snyder and seconded by Susan Werner; Motion was approved.

### Committee Reports

Keystone Flyer: Editor Patrick Altdorfer stated that next month's flyer articles are due by Sunday October 27th, and he thanked Dennis Lippert for covering the flyer as he was on vacation. Well done, Dennis!

Financial Report: Treasurer Jeff Gregg stated that we are in good financial standing and able to meet all the demands of the division.

Programs: Asst. Superintendent George Pandelios said the November meeting will be held at the Mid-Mon Valley Railroad Club in New Eagle, PA at the VFD Social Hall building. We will also have our annual swap meet at this time, so bring all your unwanted Items to sell. He stated that we still need programs (mini clinics) for upcoming meetings. He is willing to help anyone put together a short presentation (20-40 minutes).

Company Store: Susan Werner has articles in the hallway for sale and will have books and other items for sale at the next meeting.

Membership: Ken Hanawalt reported that we have 205 members on the roster and we have gained 10 members from this time last year.

Bring N' Brag: Dominic Martinelli announced he had 6 entries this month in the category Non-Revenue, with First Place going to Rick Montgomery, 2nd Place to Rick Reichenbach, and 3rd place to Dennis Lippert. He also announced that next month's Bring n' Brag will be passenger cars.

Video Library: Bud Brock was not present, ergo no report.

T-Trak Committee: Jimmy Braum announced that T-Trak will not be at the Greenberg Show in November.

Jamboree: Grier Kuehn announced that the 2025 Jamboree will be held on May 3rd at the CCAC Boyce Campus in Monroeville. More details will follow in the coming months.

Achievement Program: Dennis Vaccaro announced that he has one application pending for a Certificate in Rolling Stock and has more applications waiting for people to get their applications to him for approval.

Old Business - None.

New Business - It was stated that the Bring 'n' Brag standings were incorrect and would be updated in the next Flyer.

### For the Good of the Division

Superintendent Coglianesi asked to please be aware of new members and or guests who attend these meetings and to give them kind words about this great organization. He also thanked everyone in the division who volunteered for the Narrow Gauge National Convention, which was held in Pittsburgh in September. Finally, he asked that if you host operating sessions, please talk to your guest operators about the NMRA and welcome them to join us.

Jimmy Braum noted that he will have his layout open in November, EBT had the steam engine running with no problem, and they are working on the combine car. This is the first time since 1956 that they backed 7 passenger cars from Stewart Summit, which is 1.3 miles from the station.

### What's on your Workbench?

- Tom Gaus is working on scenery on his branch line and is looking to start operations on his layout;
- Jimmy Braum is doing scenery using Scenic Express Super Trees; visit his layout before or after the November meeting.

### What's your Problem?

- Tom Gaus is having trouble with double pole switches for his tortoise machines, the wipers keep falling off; it was suggested to drill and use nails or straight pins and glue.

It was motioned by Susan Werner and seconded by Dennis Vaccaro to adjourn the meeting at 3:19 p.m.



## Layouts wanted for the Jamboree Layout Tour!

If you would like to open your layout for the day after the Jamboree (Sunday, May 4, 2025), please contact George Pandelios at [gpandelios@verizon.net](mailto:gpandelios@verizon.net) or (717) 503-3192. Thank you!

---

---

# HOLIDAY SEASON OPEN HOUSE

---

---

## 9th Annual Holiday Wheels & Thrills Community Model Train Display Indiana Area Train Collectors

Featured will be **23 different layouts:**

- Large O scale layout
- Large Standard gauge, prewar, tinfoil, and O-27
- Prewar O scale
- Postwar O scale
- S Gauge
- Lego layout
- HO layout featuring craftsman kit and scratch-built buildings
- HO layouts
- G Gauge
- N Gauge layouts
- And many more...

Also present: Indiana PA Quilter's Club will display a selection of handmade Holiday Quilts

Location: Indiana Mall (formerly American Eagle store)  
2334 Oakland Avenue  
Indiana, PA 15701

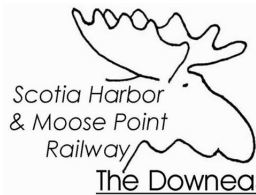
Admission: Free (but donations are accepted for the Teddy Bear Fund Drive)

Schedule: weekends beginning November 16, as follows:

<u>Fridays</u>	<u>Saturdays</u>	<u>Sundays</u>
	Nov 16, 10am to 5pm *	
	Nov 23, 1pm to 5pm	Nov 24, 1pm to 4pm
Nov 29, 1pm to 5pm	Nov 30, 1pm to 5pm	Dec 1, 1pm to 4pm
Dec 6, 4pm to 7pm	Dec 7, 1pm to 5pm	Dec 8, 1pm to 4pm
Dec 13, 4pm to 7pm	Dec 14, 1pm to 5pm	Dec 15, 1pm to 4pm
Dec 20, 4pm to 7pm	Dec 21, 1pm to 5pm	Dec 22, 1pm to 4pm

\* Special Preview show with Santa's arrival at the mall

For more information, you can contact fellow NMRA member Barry Widdowson, 107 Nicola Lane, Indiana, PA 15701.



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

## Cumberland and Lake Erie Railroad



"The Laurel Ridge Route"

D. E. Baker, V.P. of Operations  
118 Laurlis Lane, Johnstown, PA 15904 dbakerr@aol.com



## HUNTINGDON NORTHERN RAILWAY



"THE ALLEGHENY ROUTE"

R.J. Prehoda, Operations Manager

Serving Southwestern Pennsylvania with connections to:  
B&O, CP&W, Erie Lackawanna, N&W, NYC, P&WV, PRR, WM



## Turtle Creek Railroad

"The Hardshell Route"

Serving the Center of the Universe

Ken Hanawalt (724) 941-3186  
email: TurtleCreekRailroad@gmail.com

Snappy Service



## MIDWEST R&R

Where Switching & Local Freight is Our Business



Owner & Operator  
Bob DiBenedetto



rdemdsd40@yahoo.com



## PRR Panhandle Division



George Pandellos Chief Engineer  
Member: NMRA, TCA, PRRT&HS  
717.503.3192 gpandellos@verizon.net



The ASPEN SUB along the B&O  
from Morgantown to Keyser

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

The D-n-D LINE, trains at the Most Ut!

A "loose" part of the BLE RR

One Module: the road to Nowhere!

Many Modules: the road to Everywhere! Free-Mo!



## 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](http://www.railroad-line.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=22893)

## SLICKWAY RAILROAD



PRR Turtle Creek Branch serving the  
coal mines of Export, Slickville, and  
Saltsburg

Dave Kitch, 724-433-4151, dmkitch@comcast.net



## PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD MIDDLE DIVISION

Hey kids, you too can be a fan of the  
great Standard Railroad of the World!

Neal A. Schorr - Owner & Chief Engineer



## MJC + LRR

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

"The Route of Steel Country"



## BALTIMORE & OHIO WESTERN MARYLAND Consolidated Rail System



with connections to P&LE, PRR, C&O, EL, NYC

Chief Engineer John Bennett  
Phone: (814) 241-5547  
Johnstown, PA



## Rutland & Rock Ridge

232 Old Farm Road  
Cranberry Township, PA 16066  
Haulin' Black Diamonds

Fred Roney, President  
fredron@zoominternet.net



## FORKS RIDGE RAILWAY

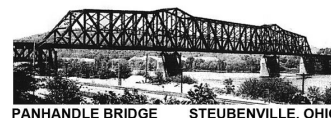


Gary P. Nastase - President & CEO  
Kathleen A. Nastase - Train Wifey ... R.I.P.  
207 State Street  
Woodbury, PA 16695  
gpnastaseo2jzo@gmail.com

Route of the Whitetail

## THE O.R.N.Ry BUNCH

15 LAYOUTS AND GROWING  
N-HO-O-G



PANHANDLE BRIDGE STEUBENVILLE, OHIO

Contact:

Robert DeBenedetto  
rdemdsd40@yahoo.com  
(740) 381-4585

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

OHIO RIVER NORTHERN RAILWAY CLUB

# Bring'n'Brag

Dominic Martinelli

The October Bring 'n' Brag category was **Non-Revenue (including Caboose)**. We had six entries in the category, with **Rick Montgomery** taking **first place** for his CSX "Autonomous Geo Car" — a car fitted with solar panels to generate power for its laser measuring device that detects faults in and/or other problems with track geometry (uneven railheads and bumps, misaligned joints, etc.). He explained to us how he saw this interesting car while railfanning, managed to take photos of the prototype from various angles, and then built the model based on his photos, using a red LED to simulate the bottom-mounted laser.



**Second place** went to **Richard Reichenbach**, who brought Erie caboose #04927 (left).



**Third place** went to **Denny Lippert**, who brought a cut of highly weathered and detailed sand hopper cars and Conrail caboose (right).

Other models were entered by **Steve Ross** (Delaware & Hudson caboose #35802) and **Mark Vinski** (Millvale Valley caboose kit-bashed from a Santa Fe style "PRR" offset cupola caboose), and **Neal Schorr** brought a photo of one of his Pennsy cabin cars, N5 #47772). All of these models have been weathered and/or have had details applied by the modeler.



In the course of this calendar year, errors have crept into the monthly standings in the Bring 'n' Brag contest, a point that **Grier Kuehn** raised at the meeting. He kindly volunteered to review and correct the standings on the basis of the monthly BnB reports this year, and he submitted to Dominic and myself the corrected standings, including the points for this month's winners. *Reminder:* Each entrant who places first in the monthly contest earns 3 points; for second place they get 2 points, and for third place they earn one point. The table below shows the cumulative point totals for the eight contests held this year from January through October 2024; the points earned in the contest at the November meeting will be added to obtain the final standings for 2024 — and awarded at the Jamboree in May 2025.

- Editor



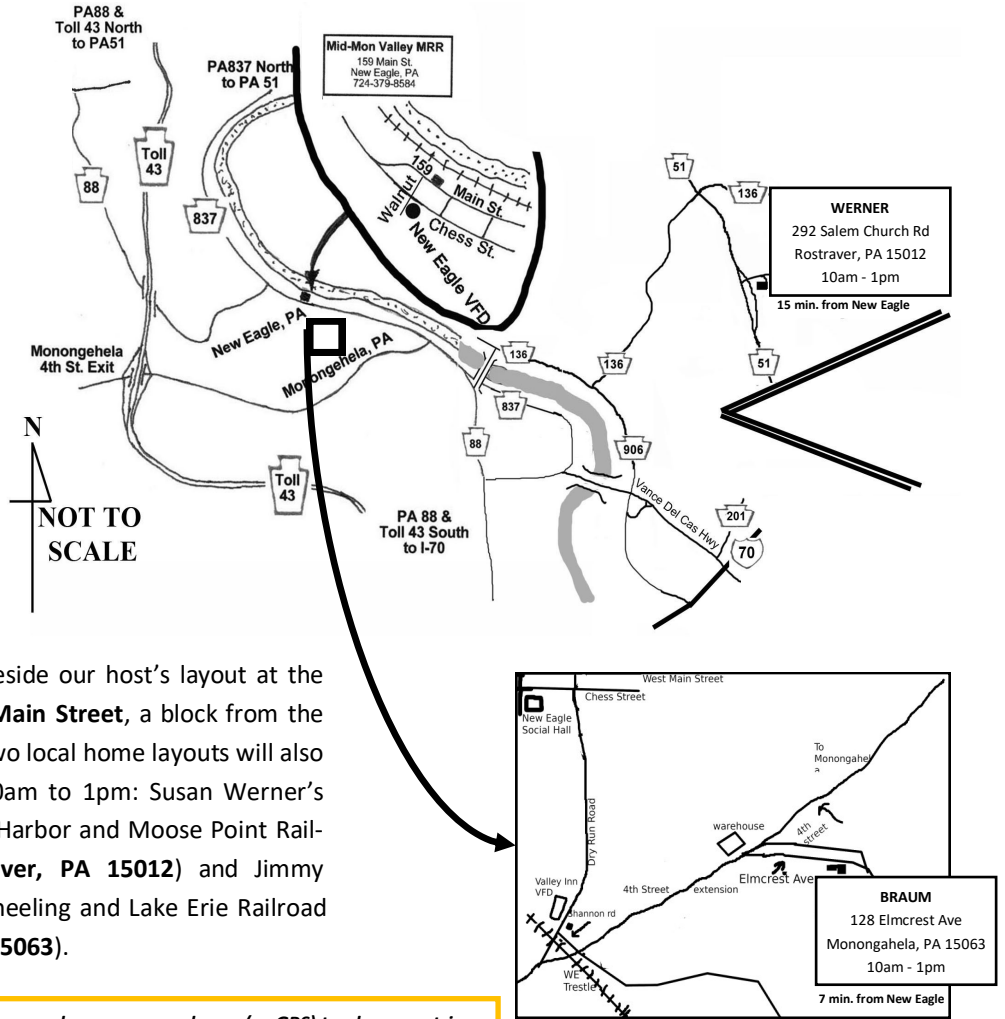
Name	pts	Name	pts
Rick Montgomery	11	Richie Jodon	2
Grier Kuehn	8	Arley Mitchell	2
Steve Ross	7	Rick Reichenbach	2
Tom Catalano	4	Neal Schorr	2
Erik Fritzberg	3	Jimmy Braum	1
Ray Helster	3	Dennis Lippert	1
		Mark Vinski	1

The Bring'n'Brag contest this month is in the category **Passenger Cars**. All entries must be presented to the Bring'n'Brag chairs no later than 2pm in order to be considered.

# MEETING TIMETABLE

## November 19: New Eagle VFD Social Hall

Our November meeting returns again to the New Eagle VFD Social Hall (156 Chess Street, New Eagle, PA 15067). This has been our traditional location for the last meeting of the year, and we will be using this meeting as an opportunity to facilitate a **members only White Elephant Sale**: member-to-member transfers of railroad-related items, memorabilia, and yes, of course, model rolling stock, motive power, and other accessories and supplies. Beside our host's layout at the Mid-Mon Valley Model RR Club (159 Main Street, a block from the Social Hall, open from noon to 2pm), two local home layouts will also be open before the meeting, from 10am to 1pm: Susan Werner's New England themed HO scale Scotia Harbor and Moose Point Railway (292 Salem Church Rd, Rostraver, PA 15012) and Jimmy Braum's HO scale rendition of the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad (128 Elmcrest Ave, Monongahela, PA 15063).



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



## January 19: Youngstown Model RR Assoc., Austintown, OH

Our January meeting is in a venue new to us, the Youngstown Model Railroad Association, located about 6 miles west of downtown (751 North Four Mile Run Road, Austintown, OH 44515) via I-680. For more information about the club, check out their website at [ymra.org](http://ymra.org), including information about their remaining open houses for this year, November 9 and 10 and December 7, 8, 14, and 15, from 12 noon to 6pm each day.

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



NEXT MEETING:  
 New Eagle VFD Social Hall, New Eagle, PA, November 17

 <p><b>Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society</b>        128 Pleasant Street        Morgantown, WV 26505</p> <p>Meeting Thursdays at 7:00 PM</p> <p><a href="http://www.MVRCC.org">www.MVRCC.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><b>Visitors Welcome        MEMBERSHIP OPEN</b></p> <p><b>FRIDAYS 7pm-2am        SUNDAYS 1pm-7pm</b></p> <p><b>2209 Walnut St. McKeesport. PA</b>  <b><a href="http://mckeesportmodelrr.com">mckeesportmodelrr.com</a></b></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  <b><a href="http://www.bcmrr.railfan.net">www.bcmrr.railfan.net</a></b></p> 



JOIN US AT THE  
31st Annual Narrow Gauge Show  
March 20-22, 2025

All Scales and Gauges Welcome  
HOn30, HOn3, Sn2, Sn3, On2, On30, On3

NEW SHOW LOCATION

First Friends Church  
1028 Jennings Ave.  
Salem, OH 44460

- \* Vendors
- \* Manufacturers
- \* Clinics
- \* Operating Layouts
- \* Model Contest/Display
- \* Food

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gary Kohler  
P.O. Box 133, Washingtonville, OH 44490  
330-719-0264  
m2fq@aol.com  
[www.portlandlocomotiveworks.com](http://www.portlandlocomotiveworks.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.

## From the Desk of the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway, East End by Jimmy Braum

If you are coming to the Division Two meeting this month, consider visiting my layout. For the new members and those who haven't visited yet, I model the modern era Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway from Rook Yard in Greentree, PA to Connellsville, PA. For those who attended the National Narrow Gauge Convention this year, Rook Yard was directly below the hotel.

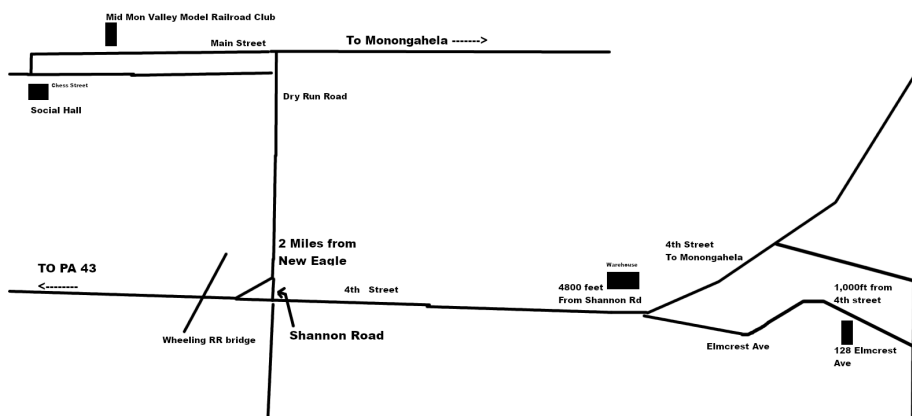
The prototype WE is known for their collection of older EMD power including SD40-2s, GP35 high hoods, and three of the last Tunnel motors in freight service. The East End of the line is the fifty miles from Rook Yard to the CSX interchange in Connellsville, PA on the old Pittsburgh and West Virginia "High and Dry" line. This stretch of line features dozens of impressive bridges, tunnels, three or more branches, and connections with the Union Railroad, Norfolk Southern, CSXT, and the AVR. While traffic is low compared to class one roads, the line consists of coke from Monessen, some general freight, and LNG tank cars coming from the old Westland mine site, now a natural gas facility.

I use code 100 rail, since in my layout history, the railroad is busier than the real one and requires the heavier rail due to traffic. I have also upgraded my operating system since last year: I now use a Wifitrax system, which is still using an NCE powercab throttle, but I can now operate from my phone using the App "Engine Driver." I also have several functioning hand built switches with hand thrown switch machines. I plan to use a car card system to allow some operation on my layout — after all it is a point to point layout, with some added plausible industry. Like the prototype, I run by track warrant, so no signals and a single track mainline.

You may still be asking yourself, "Why should I visit?" Well, I have made progress since last November's open house. As of this writing (October 2024), the first level features a functional mainline running from wall to wall in my 20' x 25' room. I have also started some small scenery projects, namely Willis Road crossing — a deep cut on the prototype that opens to a blind road crossing. I have installed the beginning of two independent lighting systems for building interior lights. I have placed a few new prototypical buildings and bridges as well as the rough ideas for a few locations. It might also be worth coming to see my late father's HO<sub>n3</sub> Rio Grande Southern layout, that he started before he passed away.

I also plan to have most of my custom painted locomotives and rolling stock on display, some of which have won merit awards at Bring 'n' Brag contests.

What am I planning in the future? Well, several projects honestly. In the near future, I am going to start constructing a two track helix, to allow a second deck to be built. This second layout will allow the mainline run to be doubled. I also plan to keep upgrading my Atlas turnouts to FastTracks or Peco turnouts to improve reliability and appearance. While I have about 20+ Wheeling locomotives, I wouldn't rule out adding more locomotives, nor would I rule out adding more tank cars. As with all layouts, more prototypical and realistic buildings are needed, as is scenery work.



**From Firehall:**  
Turn onto Chess Street. make right onto Dry Run road. Stay on Dry Run Rd for 2 miles, then make LEFT onto Shannon rd under railroad bridge. Make LEFT onto 4th Street, and stay on until you see a warehouse on your left. Make RIGHT turn onto Elmcrest Ave. I am 9th house in on the right, LOOK FOR RED TRUCK AND some RR related sign.

**Jim Braum**  
Wheeling and Lake Erie HO scale  
128 Elmcrest Ave, Monongahela PA  
10-1PM  
please park on street.  
Please note: steep steps, so NOT handicap accessible

I am located about 5-10 minutes from both the Mid-Mon Valley Model Railroad Club layout in New Eagle, and the New Eagle VFD Social Hall (meeting site). The overview map is on page 7, but here is an enlarged map to my house. My hours are from 10am to 1pm before the meeting. So, if you enjoy modern era railroading with vintage locomotives, plan to visit my layout before going to the Division meeting.

# Friends of the East Broad Top RR (FEBT) Reunion Weekend by Jimmy Braum

While EBT 16 "Nick" — a 2-8-2 narrow gauge Mikado — was down all summer due to mechanical issues, it was running flawlessly all weekend for FEBT members and the general public to enjoy. At right we see it steaming in front of the old stone farmhouse, awaiting the first train of the day. Please note: unless you are on a tour like I was here, the yard is off limits and please stay out otherwise.



The Reunion Weekend wasn't just limited to Rockhill Furnace. Robertsdale, the southern terminus of the railroad, was the meeting location that Friday. Activities included speeder rides, the museum was open, AND walking tours of the mines. At left we see what I believe to be are the ruins of the loadout for Mine No. 5.

Perhaps the biggest event of the weekend was the return of the evening train — this year available exclusively to FEBT members. This Fall Spectacular tradition returned in 2024, to take members to a catered dinner at Colgate Grove. Instead of going north, we were pushed south out of the yard, onto rail that was recently restored! We crossed over the PA 475 crossing at track speed, and became the first passengers since 1956 to travel to just north of the Jordan Summit bridge, a distance of around 1.3 miles south of the Rockhill Furnace station.



While there was much celebrating, more work is underway and more has been planned for the remainder of 2024, and all of 2025. The railroad hopes to be at the next major road crossing (PA 522) by the end of the year, a distance of 4000 feet. Work on the older rolling stock continues, as does restoration work on the buildings of the EBT.

Note: These photos were taken by me in the context of an authorized FEBT tour. The yard and railroad properties are private, posted property, so please stay out unless you are with authorized personnel.