# Join us for the Picnic! Details on page 5





# Editor's Model of the Month

(see p. 3 for Bring'N'Brag details)

# **Division Meeting Schedule**

August 19, 2018 - Division 2 Picnic, 12:00 noon Henle Park Corner of Ferry & Beaver Streets Leetsdale, PA 15046

September 16, 2018 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm Ohi-Rail Corporation (Note: Yard Tour at 1:00pm!) 177 Curry Street Minerva, OH 44657

October 21, 2018 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm Charlie Blenko: "Discovering the PRR Manor Branch" Norwin Public Library 100 Caruthers Lane Irwin, PA 15642

Get the Color Version of the Keystone Flyer 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	Railroad stations
Mar	Paper industry
Apr	Steam power (Jamboree)
May	* no meeting *
Jun	Hopper bottom cars
Aug	Structures
Sep	<b>Lumber &amp; Logging industry</b>
Oct	Cabooses
Nov	Advertising & Signage

Submission Deadline for the next Flyer:

August 26, 2018

Visit us on the World Wide Web at http://www.keystonedivision.org



# From the Super's Desk

I hope each and every one of you can attend our annual picnic by the tracks on August 19th. Come out and enjoy the fellowship and good food we have prepared.

I thank the people in our division who are working hard each month to bring you our meetings, so you can enjoy them. From Vagel Keller and Pat Altdorfer in our newsletter, Tom Gaus on the website, Frank Benders on each month's meeting location, Alden McBee for Bring'N 'Brag, Susan Werner for the Company Store, Dennis Vaccaro for the Achievement Program, Bud Brock for the Video Library, and Jeff Gregg and Andy Blenko, our two treasurers, for keeping our division funds. We would not be a strong division without these dedicated people.

I would like to extend my thanks to all of you who attended our last meeting in Morgantown. My wife Janet and I enjoyed your company, and along with Mike Hohn, Ken Colvin and the Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society membership, we thank you for attending and sharing some new ideas for our layouts. I know from our conversations that if any one of us had a problem somewhere in our division, one of you would step up and offer ideas or suggestions on how to correct a problem.

You can also return the favor to others, great friendships are started this way, remember- support your division membership and they will support you.

I would like to take a few moments to discuss the T Trak modular model railroad system. Bruce DeMaeyer from Kentucky attended our last meeting and talked about the standards which would allow for a wide range of flexibility in design, yet still maintain portability with all modules built per the standards. Creating modules using this system would allow members to run at the Greenberg Shows, along with the Free-Mo group. One of the best uses I see for this system is the capability of having a few modules, easy to transport to take to public libraries, schools and other interest groups. We should promote this great hobby of model railroading. This would get the hobby to more of our youth and other interested individuals, who do not have the space for a traditional or permanent layout. Take time to think about this. Maybe we can get a few people to build some of the modules and then we can share and learn from them at one of our monthly meetings.

Remember the picnic at Henle Park in Leetsdale, we will gather around noon and eat at 1:00, see you then.



#### **Division Elected Officers**

**Superintendent** 

Asst. Superintendent, Meetings & Programs Keith De Vault (304) 599-5261 Frank Benders

devaultki@comcast.net fbenders@comcast.net

**Chief Clerk** 

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

## **Division Appointed Officers**

<u>Treasurer</u>

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

**Achievement Program** 

Dennis Vaccaro (724) 929-2190 vaccaro dennis@yahoo.com

Loren McCullough (724) 379-8596 lorenmcc@verizon.net **Company Store** 

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

Bring'n'Brag

Alden McBee agm@mcbando.com

**Module Committee** 

Jerry Kyslinger (412) 608-3358 Jerry@Kyslinger.com

### Webmaster & Membership

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

**Keystone Flyer Editors** 

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**Jamboree Commitee** 

Jim Sacco ctyclsscs@aol.com Grier Kuehn gekuehn@comcast.net Gary Carmichael prorr@aol.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 [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: Vagel Keller, Editor, P.O. Box 5130, Pittsburgh, PA 15206.

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 on the Division website.

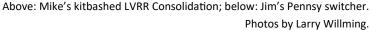
# Bring'N'Brag

# Alden McBee



This month's Bring-n-Brag theme was "Steam Power." Michael Hohn's Lehigh Valley Railroad 2-8-0 took first place. It was a kitbash of a modified Mantua Boiler on an MDC frame with parts added for pilot, domes and other details to represent a prototype Consolidation from the 1880s. The model is based on photos and published information.

Second place went to Jim Braum, for his Pennsylvania Railroad 0-6-0. Jim repainted the cab roof to a prototypical red from the factory-painted black, added some piping, and weathered the loco with Doc Weathering powders.



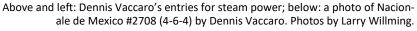






In third place
was Dennis
Vaccaro for three
working Stirling cycle
engines, which operate
by cyclic compression
and expansion of air at

different temperatures.





Name	pts	Name	pts
Neal Schorr	30	Margie Meehan	8
Jim Braum	29	George Pandelios	7
Mike Hohn	26	Frank Benders	6
Dennis Vaccaro	20	Steve Ross	5
John Gallagher	12	Jim Whipple	4



Dennis also brought this photo of Nacionale de Mexico 4-6-4 #2708 on display at Aguascalientes and was accompanied by an interesting history of Stations in Aguascalientes, Mexico, which, he points out, has been the focus of great importance to the Mexican Railway system.

Thank you to everyone who entered a model, and also to everyone who voted for their favorites!



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

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**OHIO RIVER NORTHERN RAILWAY CLUB** 

# **Division 2 Picnic**

Where: Henle Park, Leetsdale, PA -- Same place as last year.

<u>When</u>: Sunday August 19, 2018. We'll start gathering at 12:00 noon and aim to have food ready around 1:00pm. The business meeting will follow, while everyone is napping from all the good food.

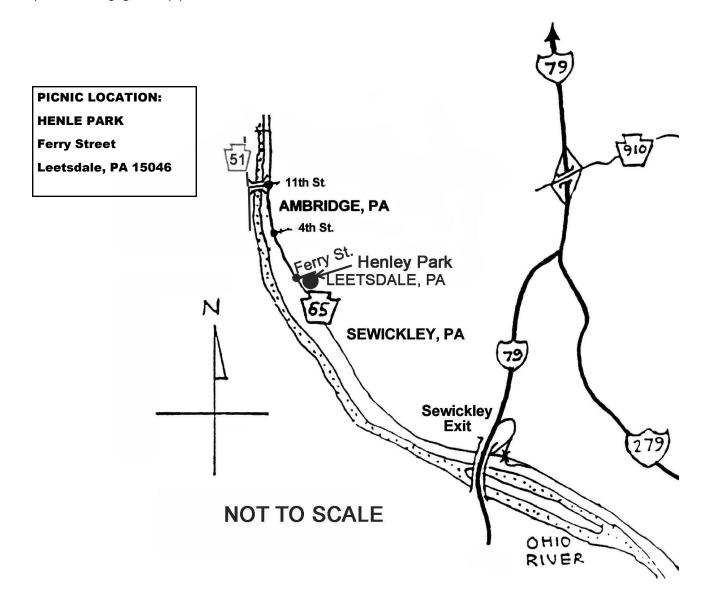
**Food**: The division will supply meat, bread, and sodas. IMPORTANT: please contact Frank Benders (contact info below) with the number of people in your party and the covered dish you will be bringing. [Bring 1 serving for every item you will put on your plate (usually 6) times the number in your party.]

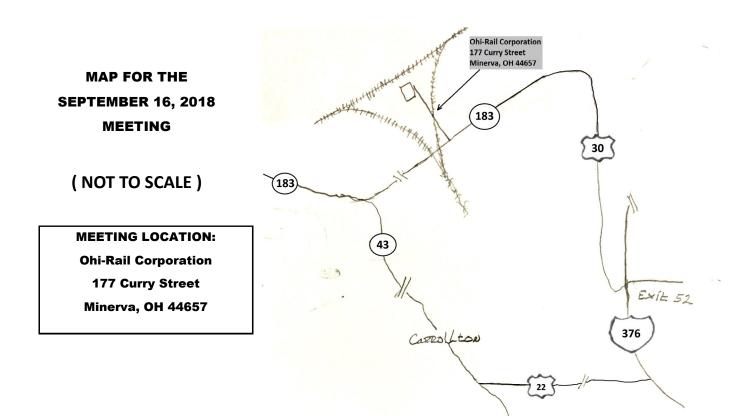
**Parking**: Lots of parking on the street.

<u>Seating</u>: We will have a shelter with tables, but some space is needed for food and Bring 'n' Brag. You might want to bring a folding chair for long-term comfort. It's up to you.

<u>Contact Information</u>: Frank Benders e-mail: fbenders@comcast.net. Email with the number in your party, what covered dish you will be bringing, and any questions.







# **September 16 Meeting: Ohi-Rail Corporation**

Robert DiBenedetto reports these program notes about our September meeting:

He has confirmed that our meeting can take place at the Ohi-Rail Corporation, located in Minerva, Ohio. The company is hosting us that day for our meeting, and they are offering us beforehand 1pm tour of their railroad yard. Says Bob: "You might want to bring your cameras!"

As this is a working railroad facility, there will be paperwork! Bob says the company requires those of us who will take part in the yard tour to sign a waiver. It is probably a good idea to <u>wear steel-toed</u> <u>shoes or boots</u>, or at least a full shoe with laces – no sandals, flip-flops, pumps, high heels, etc. Also, you will need to <u>bring a chair</u> if you intend to sit during our meeting, which will follow the yard tour.

By the way, this program takes place on the New York Central's Piney Fork Division. Bob promises "more details at the August meeting!"

The company is located at 177 Curry Street, Minerva, OH 44657.

# October 21 Meeting Preview: Norwin Public Library

After the meeting, **Charlie Blenko** will present "Discovering the Abandoned Manor Branch." Writes Charlie: "The PRR Manor Branch will be examined as a case study in how traces of old, abandoned branch lines can still be seen today through field trips and aerial mapping. Various research techniques will yield a trove of interesting information on this small branch. The branch's modeling and operational potential will also be studied. The ideas shown in this presentation can be applied to any number of prototypes and railroads."

# **Minutes**

# George Pandelios

Editor's note: Filling in for George Pandelios this month is former Superintendent Mike Hohn. Thanks Mike!

July 15, 2018 Business Meeting

Michael Hohn

The meeting was called to order at 2:22PM by Superintendent Keith DeVault. There were no new members; Frank Coats was present as a guest.

Our host was the Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society in Morgantown, WV. Society President Lou Lemelle welcomed the attendees.

The donations hat was passed.

Minutes from the June meeting were approved.

#### Committee Reports:

No report this month from the Keystone Flyer editor.

Treasurer Jeff Gregg reported little activity the past month.

Convention Treasurer Andy Blenko reported expenditures for laser kits from Portland Locomotive Works. Dennis Vaccaro gave an update on status of the kits and reported that they will be advertised once available.

Assistant Superintendent Frank Benders reminded members that they should contact him if they plan to attend the August picnic so that he has a count for buying meat and buns. More information on the September meeting will be available at the August meeting.

Company Store Chair Susan Werner reported that she has books available at half price, City Classics window treatments, boxcars from Division 1, and Portland Locomotive Works laser kits.

There were no membership or website reports.

Jerry Kyslinger reported that the next Freemo setup is on July 21-22 and sparked a discussion on the need for new module work and volunteers to set up in the future.

Alden McBee reported that there were four entries for Bring 'n' Brag.

No reports on the video library and Achievement Program.

#### Old Business:

None

#### New Business:

Mid Central Region President Bob Weinheimer encouraged attendees to register their layout on the members-only part of the NMRA website, and while there also check out the Partnership program of discounts from selected vendors. He also pointed out that the NMRA recently instituted rules related to NMRA resources such as newsletter and campaigning by candidates for office, published in the latest Kingpin.

Bruce DeMaeyer from Lexington, KY gave a short presentation on T Trak: what it is and how to get involved.

Keith DeVault reported on the 2020 MCR Convention to be held in Pittsburgh; there is still a need for a transportation manager and raffle room coordinator.

#### For the Good of the Division:

Andy Blenko reported on the Steel Mill Modelers SIG meeting that took place recently.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05PM.



**Free-Mo:** The Division 2 Free-Mo group (modules above right) joined forces with the South Hills Model Railroad Club (loop above left) to create this 1,100+ square foot layout at the Greenberg Train Show in Monroeville, PA the weekend of July 21-22. Photo by Patrick Altdorfer.

The Free-Mo group is seeking volunteers to help with future setups, and plans to rebuild the hinged loop (background, below the Keystone Division sign) are under consideration now, with a work session on the horizon; if you are interested in getting involved, please contact Jerry Kyslinger on the Module Committee.

#### The Keystone Flyer

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



NEXT MEETING - PICNIC August 19, 2018 Henle Park Corner of Ferry & Beaver Streets Leetsdale, PA 15046



#### Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society

128 Pleasant Street Morgantown, WV 26505

Meeting Thursdays at 7:00 PM

www.MVRCC.org Call Rich Henderson (304) 276-1046 for more info



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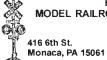
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# Thai Railways

# John Polyak

From our international desk, our correspondent on permanent assignment in Southeast Asia, John Polyak, files this feature in his ongoing series on international railways. This month's article focuses on the railways of Thailand, where he now lives.



Here's a preserved and well maintained open air conveyance. There's no motor. It must have been a joy to pump it up one of the steep grades.



This well-used flat car has American style couplers and trucks.

# Thai Railways



The major traffic to hear is oil transported in trains of these tank cars. They look squashed compared to those in the US. The shape makes sense: the center of gravity is significantly lower making the cars more stable on the narrow gauge tracks.



Passenger cars like this make up most trains, except for third class. There are three classes, the obvious others being first and second. Air conditioning has a lot to do with denoting the classes.



There's an armstrong turntable that doesn't look like it's been used for a long time. Since locomotives here are double ended, there's no need to turn them at the end of the line.



A third class train was waiting for departure from the so-clean-you-can-eat off-of-it platform. Thais are constantly sweeping (with straw brooms) and mopping floors in public places and at home. A Thai may live in a shack but the floor is clean.