Division Meeting Schedule

May 17, 2009 - Mon Valley Railroad Club of West Virginia, Morgantown, WV Layout open at 1:30 PM Meeting at 2:30 PM Program: Keith DeVault, "The History of the Morgantown & Kingwood Railroad"

June 28, 2009 - Western Pennsylvania Railroad Society, Hickory, PACommunity Center Layout open at 1:30 PM Meeting at 2:30 PM Progarm: TBD

August 16, 2009 - Div. 2 Picnic, Henley Park, Leetsdale, PA

Bring'n'Brag Categories for 2009

Jan	Anything Goes
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Feb	Passenger Equipment
Mar	Jamboree - No Contest
Apr	Trucks & Tractors
May	Residential Structures
Jun	Cranes & Derricks
Aug	Work-in-Progress
Sep	Open Loads
Oct	Scratch-built Models
Nov	Steam Power







From the Super's Desk

In the past few months, our hobby of model railroading has appeared in the "mainstream" press and introduced our hobby to a lot of non-model railroaders. The Ligonier Valley Railroad Association has arranged for a layout tour of layouts in the Latrobe, Derry and Ligonier areas on April 25, 2009 in an effort to raise funds for

the restoration of the Darlington Station. The layout tour plans were published in the Tribune-Review newspaper and the tickets for the tour have sold out. This is a tremendous response from the general public for our hobby. In addition, The Ohio Valley Lines is featured on Youtube. Check it out on the web. The link for this site is: <u>www.youtube.com/</u><u>watch?v=0Uij7eP6KLc</u>. There are several others available on this site including Mel Dithrich's Knoxville Inner Connecting Railroad. Events like these serve to raise the profile of model railroading in a very positive way. It lets others know what we find so captivating about the hobby and, in time, may bring more people to the hobby. Let's see what other ways we can find to bring our hobby to the public eye.

We will be hosting the Mid-Central Region convention in April 2012, so there are three years to get ready. I would encourage everyone to consider sharing something you have learned by doing a clinic. You can practice by giving your presentation at one of our monthly meetings and then presenting the improved version at one of the Jamborees. This is an excellent way to earn points toward your Model Railroad Author AP certificate. While we are on the subject, we will be needing layouts for operating sessions at that convention and layouts for visiting on the final day of the convention. This is done on Sunday, the last day of the convention and is self-guided. That generally means that people will be trickling in to your layout instead of arriving all at once. This should serve as an inspiration to get working on that layout!

Just because the weather is getting nicer and the temptation to spend all of one's time outside gardening, etc., that is no excuse to ignore one's model railroad. My husband, Hans, says that the lawn mowing will wait; the layout needs attention (this from the man who mows his own lawn maybe three times a year)!

... Susan Merner

Minutes From Last Meeting

KEITH DeVAULT

The April meeting was called to order by Superintendent Susan Werner at 2:35 PM at the Ohio Valley Lines club in Ambridge, PA. We had 42 members present at the meeting, and a few that were unable to climb the new steps to the remodeled meeting room.

John Gallagher welcomed the members to the club's facilities, and wanted everyone to enjoy the spacious layout downstairs. There were no new members present at the meeting.

Dick Flock passed around a get well card for John Roberts who was a member of our division and is currently in the hospital in Virginia.

The March Jamboree minutes were approved as published in the Flyer.

The Treasurer's report was not available from Carl Volkwien, because he is waiting on the final numbers from the Jamboree. He will have March and April's report at the next meeting.

Dick Flock gave the Company Store report update. Several books are now available; Montour books both hardbound and paperback are available and the new Western Maryland book from Morning Sun. NMRA Division 3 will be selling V/O Gondola's in both kit and RTR form, and Dick was asked to man the Company Store at the convention later this month in Columbus and our Division will receive some profit for overseeing the store during that time.

Tom Gaus, Membership Chair and Webmaster, reported that the division stands at 257 Active members. The website he believes had a record number of hits last month at 38,501, 1817 sessions, and the RPM Flyer page had the most with 353 views.

Bob Meier, gave the FreeMo modular layout update: The July Greenburg show has been cancelled and the show has tentative been scheduled for November at the Old Wickes Furniture Building in Monroeville. He is still looking for help, both to help build and run the modular layout.

Paul Gallick announced that he had 9 entries for this month's Bring N Brag, Trucks and Tractors category.

Susan reported that the MCR convention in Columbus, Ohio will be coming up the end of this month. She will submit our bid for the 2012 Regional Convention at the business meeting on Saturday. She said if we win, then we should start planning right away, to make the Convention one of the most successful ones that our Division has ever hosted.

The election is over and the results will be forthcoming in the next issue of Kingpin.

In the absence of Mike Hohn, the next program will be held at the Mon Valley Railroad Club in Morgantown where the club will have the layout running and with the new remodeled area done will also host the business meeting.

Jim Sacco gave the Jamboree report with 145 paid registrations and 20 guest clinicians and speakers also in attendance. Susan thanked Jim, Tom Gaus as registrar and all the members of the committee for a very successful Jamboree.

For the Achievement Program both chairmen were absent, but Susan noted that many individuals are working on the program.

In Old Business, Don Reed reported that he is still working on a Craftsman building kit program for the division.

In New Business, Susan recognized Steve Ross for over 6 years of being Clerk for the Division, and announced that Keith DeVault will be taking over the position.

For the Good of the Division, John Gallagher thanked Tom Gaus for his work on putting the Ohio Valley Lines Club on YOU TUBE.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 PM. Steve Ross gave his program on "Colonie Colors" Illustrated History of the D & H Diesel Paint Schemes.



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FreeMo Group Ops Session Set for June

The Div 2 Keystone Freemo modular group will set up at the Holy Family Social Hall on 44th Street in Lawrenceville (Pittsburgh) on the weekend of June 13th and 14th 2009. The times for the setup will run from about 9 am to about 4 pm on both days. If anyone would like to join us please call or E-mail Bob Meier using the contact info at left. The only thing that you will be required to furnish are your drinks and to chip in for pizza if you wish to join us for lunch. Remember this is one of the benefits of belonging to Div 2.

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 if you reside within the geographical boundaries of Division Two. Additional, or non-member, yearly subscriptions are available for \$5.00. Make checks payable to: Division Two, NMRA-MCR and send with 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's website: http://www.keystonedivision.org

VIDEO REVIEWS

Title: "Logging Railroads - Modeling the Prototype"

Format: DVD

Year produced: 2006

Produced by: Green Frog

Total running time: 57 minutes

Appropriate for (level): All

Description: The film is a combination of footage about actual logging railroads - Westside, Rayonier, Mower (now the Cass Scenic Railway), Ely-Thomas, and Grasse River RR. It also includes footage of three model railroads that model the logging industry - Bob Clarke, Dr. Charles Patti and Lou Ullian. The film of the prototype railroads, shot between the 1920's and the 1960's, has been digitally enhanced. The script is well-written (by an expert on logging railroads, according to the box copy, and that seems believable) and well delivered.

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DON REED

Positives: The old footage is really interesting and the prototype material is well chosen and well presented, in my opinion.

Negatives: I was a bit less happy with the material on the model railroads, especially when they tried to use the models to explain prototype operations.

Technical quality: Very good.

Overall: I watched it twice but must admit I fast-forwarded over some of the modeling stuff on the second time through. The prototype footage is worth a third viewing.

THE KEYSTONE DIVISION

Title: "Historical Features of the Pennsylvania Railroad"

Format: DVD

Year produced: 1998

Produced by: Penn Valley Pictures

Total running time: 43 minutes

Description: The film is subtitled "Steam in the 30's and 40's." It is created from 16 mm film shot by Clarence Weaver plus a lot of additional PRR archival footage. There are action segments in the Sunbury area, Wilkes-Barre Division (last trip of the Anthracite Express), the Harrisburg engine terminal. The archival film includes high-speed smoke deflector tests (a little weird, in my opinion, but YMMV), and a lot of really interesting footage on the construction and testing of the T-1's.

Positives: If you like steam, this film has lots and lots of great footage. And the added sound is well done in most cases. The narration is also good. The images have been digitally enhanced. The depot scenes are great sources of information of what people wore, details to model, etc.

Negatives: Nothing much. Despite the digital enhancement, some of the old images are still pretty shaky, but no worse than you would expect.

Technical quality: Very good

Overall: Lots of fun to watch.

Bring 'n' Brag

April's contest was held at the Ohio Valley Lines club in Ambridge, PA. There were 10 entries in this month's contest where the subject was "Trucks and Tractors."

First place was won by Grier Kuehn for his HO scale 1968 Ford F-850 20' Dry Van. Grier started with a stock Athearn truck to which he added details, painting, lettering and weathering.

Second place was a tie between Dave Wilson and Steve Hertzer. Dave entered a scratchbuilt HO scale model of PRR turntable. He built the turntable from Micro Engineering bridge girders and hand laid Micro Engineering Code 70 track. The portal and cab were built from brass and styrene. Steve entered a Lionel O scale grain mill with a fully lit interior.

Other entries for this month's contest included:

Andy Lorince entered three S scale tractors and trailers. The first included two farm tractors on a flat bed and was lettered for John Deere by Ertel. The second was a trailer lettered for Caterpillar by Norscott, and the third was a First Gear tractor-trailer lettered for the US Postal Service.

Neil Schorr entered a beautifully weathered O scale 1950's Chevy pickup truck lettered for the PRR.

Bill DeFoe entered an HO scale Ford Model 'A' stakebody truck from a white metal kit to which he added a scratchbuilt stakebody bed and other details.

PAUL GALLICK

Steve Ross entered an HO scale Farmall 'M' tractor modified from a LifeLike SceneMaster tractor by moving and replacing the exhaust muffler, adding numerous details, and painting and decaling for the prototype.

Paul Gallick entered an HO model of a Ford 8N farm tractor built from a GHQ pewter kit was painted in the classic red and grey paint scheme used by Ford for this tractor.

Don Reed entered an HO scale Maine Trading Post structure kit kitbashed from a Rusty Stumps Scale Models kit named the "Haphazards Hardware Store."

Thanks to everyone who brought in models and voted. Next month's contest category is "Residential Structures."

The standings are as follows:

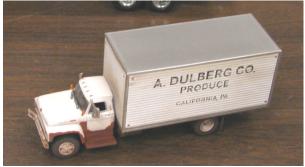
<u>Points</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>
12	Charlie Blenko	2
11	Paul Gallick	2
9	Robert Hickman	2
6	Jim Kubanick	2
6	George Pandelios	2
5	Neil Schorr	2
4	Steven Schorr	2
4	Andy Lorrince	1
4		
	12 11 9 6 6 5 4 4	12Charlie Blenko11Paul Gallick9Robert Hickman6Jim Kubanick6George Pandelios5Neil Schorr4Steven Schorr4Andy Lorrince





Winning B'n'B entries counter-clockwise from right,





Keystone Flyer

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Work in progress to be seen on the layout of the Mon-Valley Railroad Club of West Virginia in Morgantown on May 17th.



TROUBLE BREWING For Venerable Regional HO Scale Coal Railroad

Employees of the Huntingdon Northern Railway reacted with shock last month when management's intention to issue a press release titled "Wages Slashed; Jobs Saved!" was leaked to leaders of Local #2, Brotherhood of Model Locomotive Engineers by an editor who is also an employee of the railroad.

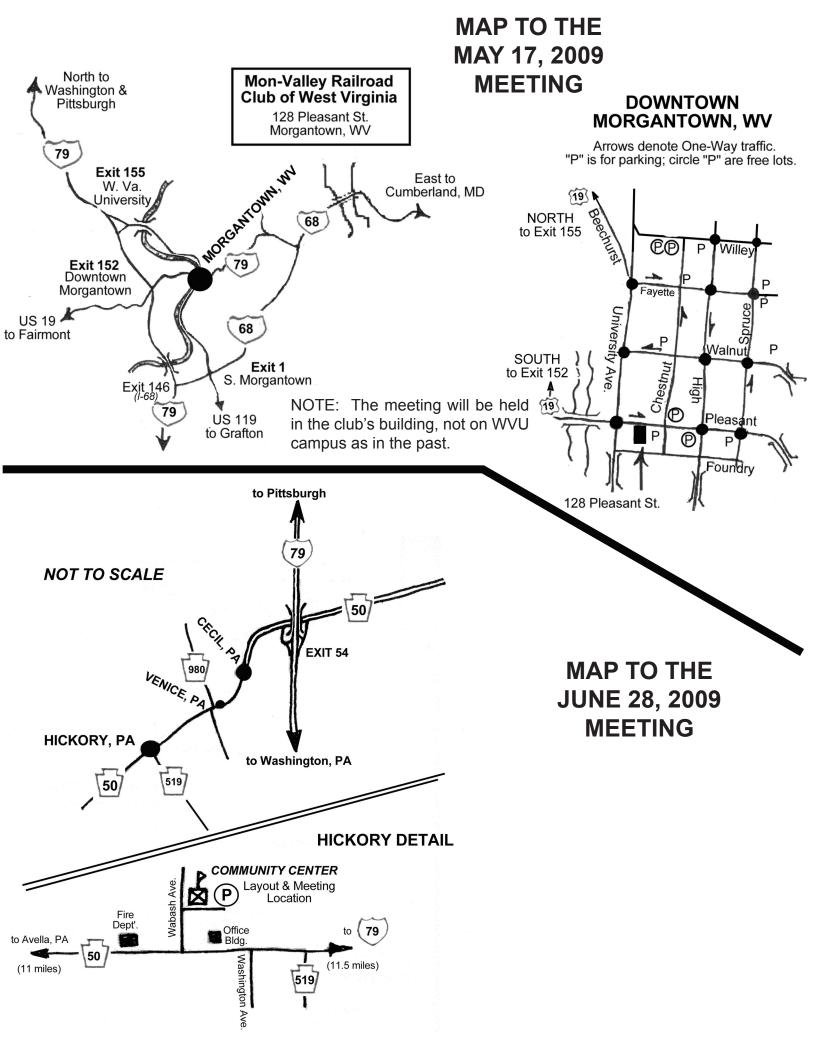
The document claimed that the railroad had reached "a landmark agreement that could set the standard for the railroad industry for years to come." Its main feature is what management calls "huge" wage concessions in return for the cancellation of plans to purchase large numbers of diesel locomotives, which would have allowed the railroad to layoff many employees. This seems to explain recent purchases of used steam locomotives at bargain basement prices from other railroads expanding their diesel fleets.

"This [plan] should save many jobs," said R. J. Prehoda, Chief Negotiator and Director of Operations for the Huntingdon Northern. "I feel that the wage concessions and the purchase of low-priced steam power will enable this railroad to serve its expanding coal business and to survive well into the Sixties." He is proud to say "steam can still be heard on the Allegheny Division in 1961."

But leaders of BMLE Local #2, say that not only has no such agreement been made, there have been no negotiations, formal or informal, on the subject of wage cuts. While expressing relief at not having to "learn how to run them newfangled diesels," union leaders and veteran engineers R. L. Johnson and R. H. Flock predicted trouble if management attempts to cut wages while at the same time adding to the workload of train crews by forcing them to work with obsolete steam power cast off by other railroads.

Other union members with less seniority, R. T. Newell and V. C. Keller, were overheard saying "A low-pay job might be better than a no-pay job, but that doesn't mean another 'Summit Tower' won't happen," referring to the destruction by fire several years ago of the block control station at Summit. At the time, railroad management blamed the fire on disgruntled employees incited by labor organizers, but the BMLE insisted the cause was faulty wiring and pointed to other critical maintenance problems that management had ignored while spending valuable time and resources on landscaping and employing private detectives to suppress the union's organizing efforts.

When asked about reports from diesel manufacturers that they had not received any orders for "large numbers of diesels" by the Huntingdon Northern, Mr. Prehoda declined to comment.



The Keystone Flyer

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NEXT MEETING: May 17, 2009 Mon Valley Railroad Club of West Virginia Morgantown, WV

