

New member Erik Fritzberg wowed voters in the Bring'n'Brag last month with his O scale Pullman Club Car, super-detailed to reflect the luxurious appointments characteristic of the heyday of passenger rail travel, here courtesy of the NYC's 20th Century Limited. Read more on page 5.

Meeting Schedule

February 18, 2024 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm
Weirton Area Museum & Cultural Center
3149 Main Street
Weirton, WV 26062
Museum opens at 1pm for us
Program: George Pandelios, "Quilt Batting for Scenery"

March 17, 2024 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm
Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society
5000 Green Bag Road, Unit D-13
Morgantown, WV 26501
Program: Wally Venable, "Cardboard Structures"
Layouts: Mike Hohn, Keith DeVault

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

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

Submission Deadline for next *Flyer*:
February 25, 2024

Visit us online at
keystonedivision.org



From the Super's Desk

In some ways, this is a quiet time of the year. We're done with the holidays and the weather will limit us to indoor activities. Seems like a perfect time for model railroading events!

Besides our monthly membership meetings, there are two upcoming events that are worth your time.

The first is our annual, Division 2 Jamboree. This two-day event lets us gather with other like-minded modelers and spend time in clinics, contests, and provides a chance to meet with other modelers to exchange ideas. This year's Jamboree committee, headed by Grier Kuhn and Neal Schorr, has a great lineup of clinics and is in a new venue. It will also have the usual White Elephant room, which is always good for recycling stuff you no longer need for new stuff you might need someday! We'll also have a chance to sit with other modelers over 3 meals! Of course, there will be raffles, but in a new format. I have it on good authority that the banquet speaker will be someone special speaking on a topic that is familiar to all. And don't forget the layout tours for the second day!

The Jamboree will be held on April 13 and 14 and registration is open! This is also a big recruiting opportunity for us. Non-NMRA members can register for \$10 more than NMRA members, but we enroll them in a Rail-Pass membership. This is a great way for us to show people what a great organization we have and help them get involved.

The second big event is the Mid-Central Regional Convention, The North Coast Limited, hosted by our neighbors in Division 4. The convention runs from May 16-10 in Cleveland, Ohio. That's a relatively short trip away and is shaping up to be a great event. We had lots of their members visit us last year at Rails to Pittsburgh and Division 4 is working to make the event something special.

Information and links for both events are on the Keystone Division website.

These are two excellent opportunities to engage with new people and have new experiences. I'll be looking for you at both events, so come on out!

... 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

January 21, 2024 Business Meeting

Superintendent Dennis Coglianese called the meeting to order at 2:30PM. He thanked the D.A.R.E. club for hosting. Dave Stanton thanked everyone for coming and noted that it was a great turnout. He also mentioned that the club is for kids, and they have many new kids starting.

Pass the Hat: Jeff Gregg passed the hat.

New members or guests – (Chief Clerk's note: Apologies for not being able to collect the last names of the many new members in attendance.) Jacob, N scale modeler; Lisa from Monroeville, brand new to model railroading, N scale modeler; Eric, 2-rail O scale; Rob Burnett, N scale modeler.

Motion to accept the minutes as published by Richie Jodon, seconded by Dennis Vaccaro; the motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Keystone Flyer – Patrick Altdorfer. The deadline for submissions for the next issue of the Keystone Flyer is January 28. Pike ads are due, 10x year published in the Flyer.

Financial – Treasurer – Jeff Gregg. The division is solvent. There is enough money to cover the Jamboree expenses.

Programs – Assistant Superintendent George Pandelios. February's meeting will be at the Weirton Area Museum, 3149 Main St, Weirton, WV; program on scenery by George Pandelios. March's meeting will take place at the Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society, 5000 Green Bag Road, Morgantown, WV; program on cardstock building. Meeting locations have been firmed up for nearly all of 2024. We are still (and always) on the lookout for presentations at these meetings. If you've done or learned something new, we'd like to see that. Help in creating a presentation (slides, handouts, etc.) is available. There was a brief discussion of possibly moving the May Business meeting date from its scheduled date of May 19; it conflicts with the last day of the MCR Convention in Cleveland; no action was taken.

Company Store – Susan Werner. The last remaining City Classics kits are still available.

Membership – Ken Hanawalt. Reported by Dennis Coglianese: Membership is at 197; 2 new; 3 late to renew. Mike Hohn noted that National does not send any reminders. The Division recruited 5 members from the Greenberg Show in early January and 1 referred by Dave Martinelli.

Website – Tom Gaus. Reported by Dennis Coglianese: New member AP certificates will be featured on the site.

Nominating Committee - Susan Werner noted that there have been no additional candidates announced for the elections later this year. The incumbents Dennis Coglianese (Superintendent), George Pandelios (Assistant Superintendent), and Chief Clerk (Mike DeSensi) are all running for reelection. Additional candidates will make for a better election process.

Audit Committee – Susan Werner and Mike Hohn have accepted appointments to the Audit Committee. They had not selected the

third member and Dave Martinelli volunteered. Susan and Mike will make the final decision.

Financial Oversight Committee - Dennis Coglianese reviewed purpose of the Financial Oversight Committee to formalize Division finances by providing formal budgeting, review and approval processes. The committee will comprise the 3 elected officers (Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Clerk) plus the Treasurer (currently Jeff Gregg) and one additional member, Andy Blenko, who handles the Convention/Jamboree transactions.

Free-Mo – Patrick Altdorfer. The HO scale Free-Mo group took part in the January Greenberg Show and fielded an interesting 20x25 layout. The group is currently exploring options for more modules to create a loop-to-loop layout to complement the current point to point arrangement.

Bring & Brag – Rick Terek. Category was Anything Goes. Third Place: Rick Montgomery, HO scale Sinclair Service Station; Second Place: Richie Jodon; N scale twin engine house; First Place: Erik Fritzberg, O scale Pullman Club car, remodeled the interior to model as close to prototype as possible, and added LED lighting and figures. Great job, everyone!

Video Library – Bud Brock. Changes are in the works.

Achievement Program – Dennis Vaccaro. Dennis announced three Merit Awards and two AP certificates: Richie Jodon for his N scale Engine House; Jimmy Braum for his HO scale 100 ton W & LE hopper; and George Pandelios for his Open Hearth Steel Mill in O scale; Ken Hanawalt was awarded AP Certificates for Chief Dispatcher and his Golden Spike (photos on page 6).

T-TRAK – Richie Jodon / Jimmy Braum. It was noted that the Greenberg Show in early January was well attended and the T-TRAK layout ran well and without incident. It was also brought up about seeking out malls and other public places for a display, not just for the holiday season.

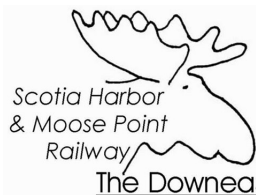
Jamboree 2024 – Grier Kuehn. Grier reminded everyone the date is April 13, 2024; CCAC Boyce Campus in Monroeville, PA; there is plenty of space for everything. Nikki Wilhelm, the Manager of the Miniature Railroad & Village at the Carnegie Science Center will be the featured speaker at the Banquet. Also, the website is updated with all current information. Finally, all transactions on the day of the show are CASH ONLY! This includes registrations, raffle tickets, and white elephant sales.

Old Business - None.

New Business

Dennis Coglianese proposed increasing the donation made to organizations that allow us to hold membership meetings at their locations from \$100 to \$150. After a debate regarding the source of the additional income and procedures for making such a change, no action was taken. Mike Hohn requested that Financial Oversight Committee review this and make a recommendation to the membership.

... continued on page 6



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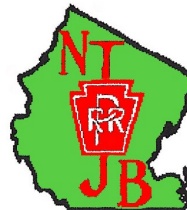


HO/HON3

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NEW MEMBERS
WELCOME

OHIO RIVER NORTHERN RAILWAY CLUB

Bring'n'Brag

Tracy Boyd/Richard Terek

January 2024

For this year's Bring and Brag contest, the January category was **Anything Goes**.

We had seven contestants with an additional two entries for display only. After member voting, the winners were chosen, as follows:



First Place went to **Erik Fritzberg** for his submission of an O scale 70 foot Pullman Club car in New York Central's 20th Century Limited livery (above). An extensive interior was added to reflect 1930s-era appointments and fixtures, including furniture, figures, and ceiling lighting.



Second Place went to **Richie Jodon** for his entry of a Twin Engine Shed in N scale (left). It was scratch-built using craft sticks, Tichy windows and doors, styrene roof sheets, and gooseneck lights. The structure was then weathered using various other materials.

Third Place went to **Rick Montgomery** for his HO scale Sinclair Service Station (right). It was built from an Atlas kit, "Al's Victory Service Station," which he changed to a Sinclair station along with signs, gasoline pumps, and the iconic dinosaur. The display includes Atlas Trucks.



Congratulations to the winners and special mention to our other member entries (whose photos can be viewed online on page 9) for submitting their handiwork. Let's see what kind of motive power you can bring out next month!

All photos by Rick Terek.



Name	pts
Erik Fritzberg	3
Richie Jodon	2
Rick Montgomery	1

The Bring'n'Brag contest category for February is **Motive Power: Diesel / Steam / Electric / Traction**. Remember: All entries must be presented to the presiding Bring'n'Brag chair no later than 2:00pm in order to be considered.

MODEL RR JAMBOREE

Jamboree Highlights and Reminders

Returning Regulars - 12 Clinics, White Elephant Sale, 4 Contests, Displays, Company Store, Raffle, 50/50, Door Prizes, Continental Breakfast, Lunch, Optional Banquet and Sunday self-directed Layout Tours.

Lunch Program - Jerry Jordak will present his popular video, "Postcards of the P&LE", depicting the railroad's past and present featuring the paintings of Howard Fogg. If you've already seen it, you'll want to again. If this will be your first time, you won't be disappointed.

After Dinner Program - Continuing with the W. PA. theme, we are extremely pleased to have Nikki Wilhelm of the Carnegie Science Center. She is the manager of the Miniature Railroad & Village and will speak of the past, present and future of that wonderful 105-year-old display that has treated many thousands over the decades.

NMRA Partnership Program - New this year will be a table displaying promotional items from many of the manufacturers and companies participating in the program that gives special pricing to NMRA members. This is the brainchild of division member Rob Twigger who has contacted all 66 participants and offered to promote their products at our Jamboree. Rob personally met with 24 of the partners in person last weekend at the Amherst Train Show in W. Springfield MA.

Reminders - Invite a friend to attend. No credit cards are accepted so bring cash for the sales and raffles. For many more details go to the Division website at www.keystonedivision.org. Click on the Jamboree logo which is continually updated as details are finalized.

Grier Kuehn & Neal Schorr

MINUTES

... cont'd from p. 3

For the Good of the Division

Ray Helster noted that there will be a train show at the New Eagle VFD Social Hall, New Eagle, PA, next weekend, January 28.

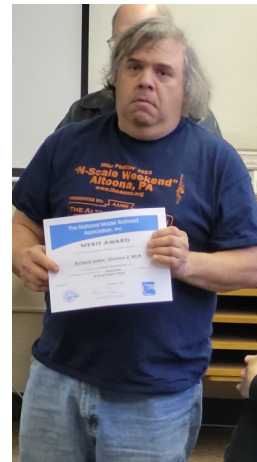
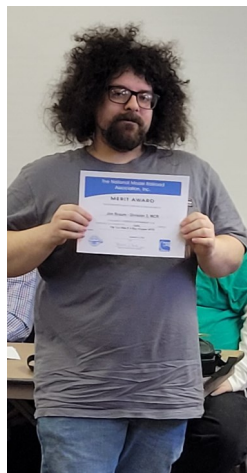
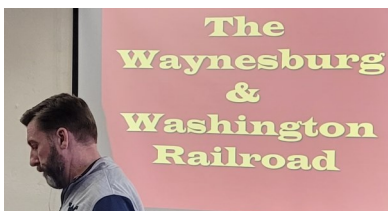
The Division noted the passing of Bob Mehler, proprietor of Esther's Hobby in Millvale. Thoughts and prayers to his family.

Next Meeting: February 18 at the Weirton Area Museum, 3149 Main Street, Weirton, WV.

Motion to adjourn by George Pandelios, seconded by Mike DeSensi; meeting adjourned at 3:58pm.



After the meeting, Jim Weinschenker presented a program on the narrow gauge Waynesburg & Washington Railroad — its history, its connections to the PRR, and what remains of its infrastructure.



Achievement Program

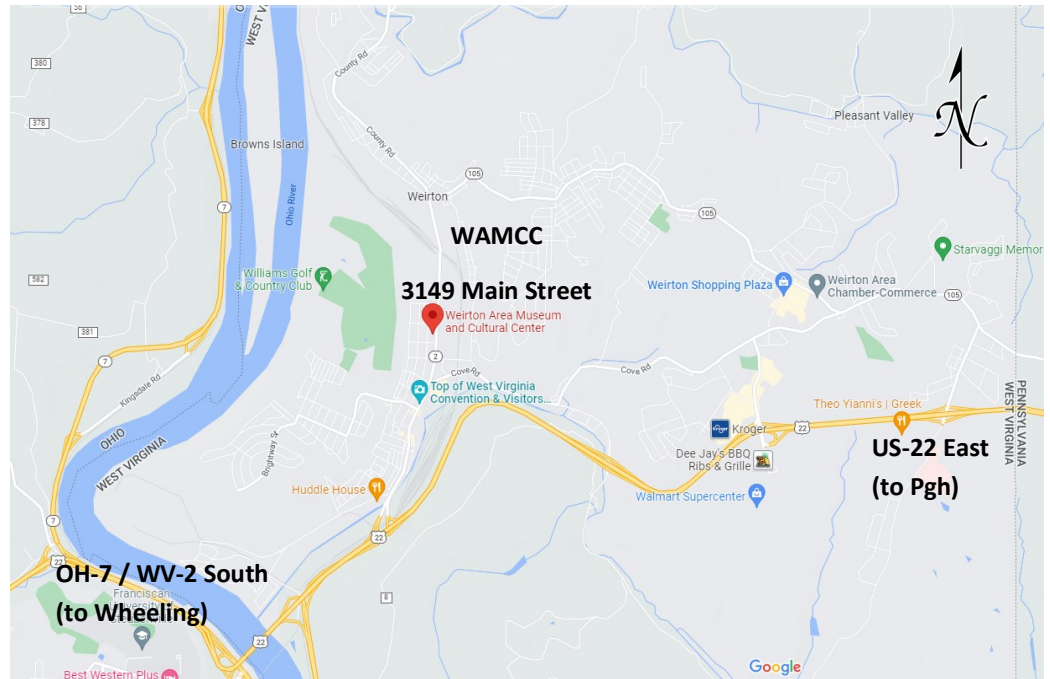
Dennis Vaccaro presented five certificates to recognize member modeling achievements. Merit Awards went to (clockwise from top left) Jimmy Braum for the category "Cars" for his HO scale 100 ton W & LE hopper; to Richie Jodon for "Structures" for his N scale Twin Engine House (for which he also won 2nd Place in the Bring'n'Brag contest); and to George Pandelios for "Structures" for his Open Hearth Steel Mill in O scale. Dennis models the AP Certificate for Chief Dispatcher and the Golden Spike Award, presented in absentia to Ken Hanawalt. Congratulations!



MEETING TIMETABLE

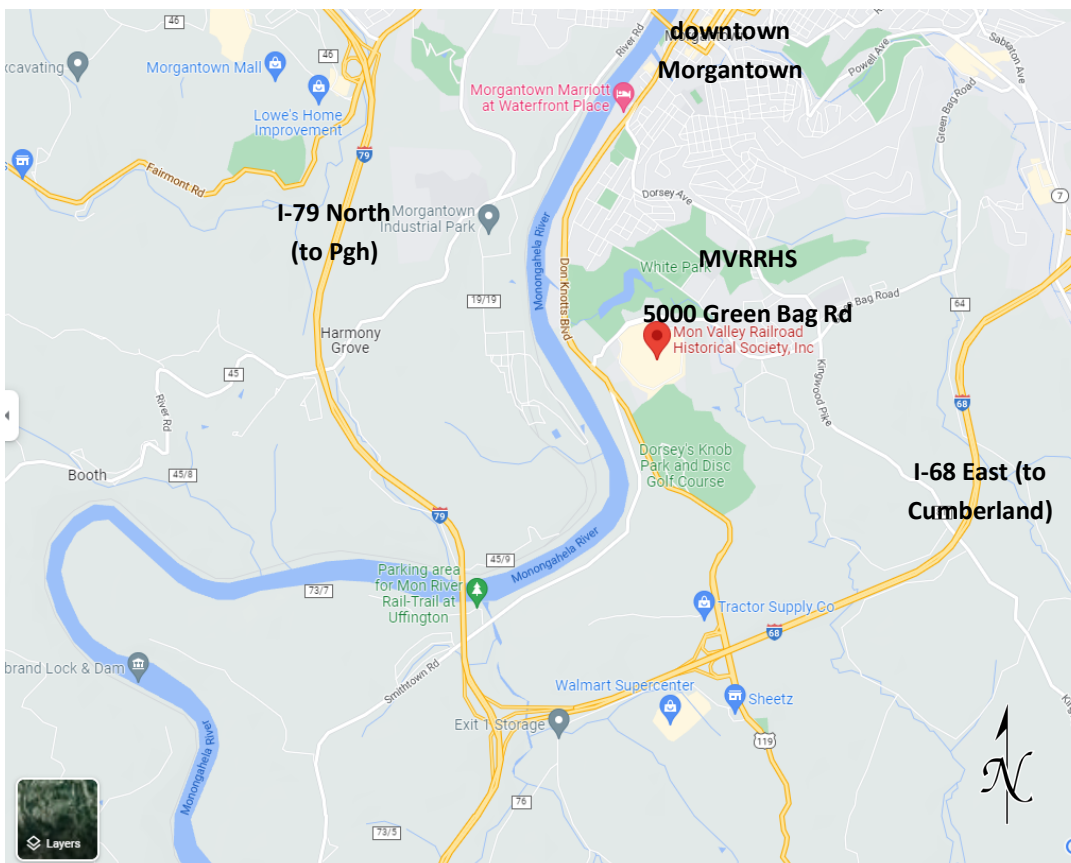
Our February meeting returns to the **Weirton Area Museum & Cultural Center (3149 Main Street, Weirton, WV 26062)**, which houses a variety of artifacts and exhibits depicting life in Weirton and surrounding area over the past 200 years. The museum will open before the meeting at 1pm, and it will close after the meeting, when George Pandelios will present a clinic entitled “Making Scenery using Low-Loft Quilt Batting” — a simple technique for making light-weight, realistic scenery. Also, the editor received late notice that **Lester Lemley** will open his large, partially scenicked HO scale layout from 10am to 5pm (**102 William Street, Steubenville, OH 43952**). If you need assistance, call 304-374-0781.

February 18: Weirton, WV



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

March 17: Morgantown, WV



Our March meeting returns to the **Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society (5000 Green Bag Road, Unit D-13, Morgantown, WV 26501)**. After the meeting, Wally Venable will present “How to Make Cardboard Structures on Your Computer,” a ca. 30 minute program that will show the group how to make structures in N, O and HO scale and will have samples of each. At this writing, the editor has received no information about local layouts that may host an open house.

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



NEXT MEETING:
 Weirton Area Museum & Cultural Center, Weirton, WV, February 18

 <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 Open Every Monday 7:30PM – 10:00PM</p> <p>info@ohiovalleylines.org 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</p> <p>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)

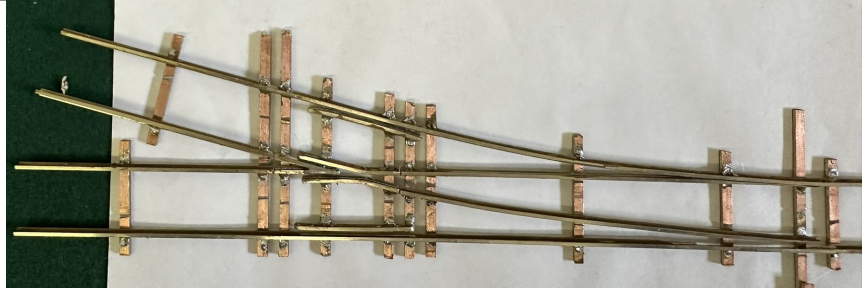
Four additional entries were submitted for the January contest Anything Goes.

Bryan Seip, who is active in the DARE Model RR Club, brought this wheelset load he built for operating sessions (right). He also brought prototype photos of such wheelsets being loaded on a P&LE gondola.



Jake Atkison brought a BLI N scale Mikado locomotive (#1000) and companion caboose (left) decorated for the P&WV Railway.

Jim Braum brought four HO scale No. 4 turnouts that are “works in progress,” which he is building using [Fast Tracks](#), a track-laying kit that includes an aluminum fixture for aligning and securing rails while you solder them to PC board “ties.” Next he will add wooden ties to complete the turnout and then paint the ties and rails before placement on his layout. Note: You can download templates gratis from the [company website](#) by searching “template.”

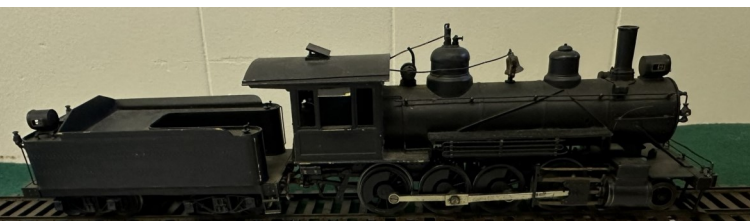


At our public Free-Mo displays, guests often ask group members what goes into the construction of our modules. Free-Mo evangelist Dave Martinelli decided to show what is “Behind the Curtain” with the new module that he and son Dominic are building (left). This module is an otherwise conventional 2 foot by

4 foot module, built to Free-Mo standards, but with half of it built over plexiglass (instead of insulation board) to reveal the lesser-known “underbelly” of the hobby: plywood construction, turnout controls, and wiring.

For display, Jim Whipple brought a vintage S scale locomotive (bottom left), essentially kit-bashed by his late friend Jack Sudimak from a tender kit plus assorted boiler detail parts from Kemtron, and scratch-built frame, cylinders, and pilot; and George Pandelios brought the January/February 2024 issue of *O Scale Trains Magazine* that

features his article on scratch-building telegraph poles (right).



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.

Division 2 Members Bring T-TRAK to the D.A.R.E. club in Venetia, PA

by Mike DeSensi, Division 2 member & Chief Clerk

Photos by Jim Hofer, Division 2 member

Back in October 2023, I had the privilege to display my N scale West View & Santa Fe portable layout and a small [T-TRAK](#) layout at the NMRA MER Regional Convention held in Altoona, PA. It was there that I was approached by Dave Stanton of the [D.A.R.E. Club](#) in Venetia, PA. He explained that several of the younger members of the club were very interested in T-TRAK and asked if I might be willing to come to the club and show a few of my modules and explain the basics of getting started.



With the Keystone Division business meeting being held at the club in January 2024, we thought that would be an excellent opportunity to have the demonstration. From there the idea of building enough modules for a complete layout with the kids would be a great, fun, hands-on experience.

Thanks to a very generous donation from [Esther's Hobby](#) in Millvale, PA, I was able to secure 8 single straight modules and 4 standard corners. Further, Esther's donated all of the Kato track necessary to complete the layout. All of the donations are in memory of the patriarch at Esther's Hobby, Bob Mehler.

On January 21, we met before the Division business meeting. I was joined by fellow Division 2 members Kevin Squire and Thomas Catalano; Jim Hofer showed up a bit late but just in time to grab some photos. We had 8 youngsters (and a couple not-so-youngsters) and their equally excited parents who showed up for the build. The kids had a great time building their own module. Glue was everywhere!! In the end, all the kids went home with a module that was assembled to specs, wired correctly, and ready for their creative efforts. Many were eager to start the scenery process even before the glue was set.



I look forward to seeing their results!!



T-TRAK™



ALL ABOARD!
The North Coast Limited is coming!

May 16-19, 2024
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Schedule of Events:

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Convention

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www.northcoastlimited2024.org



Call for N-Scale T-TRAK Modules!

It's here! The call for N-Scale T-TRAK modules! It is for those N-Scale T-TRAK modelers who will be attending the North Coast Limited convention, hosted by The North Coast Division of the NMRA Mid Central Region.

Let Us Know You're Coming!

<https://forms.gle/RkKrdTWxcZetGDUr6>

Useful Links

T-TRAK Information

<https://ntrak.org/T-TRAK-Home>

T-TRAK Wiki

<http://ttrak.wikidot.com/>

Questions:

If you have any questions, please send an email to both Ramhog Shearer ramhog5@aol.com and Frank Trocchia ftrocchi@yahoo.com.

RAILWAY & LOCOMOTIVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Oldest Railroad History Organization in North America



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)



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

Contact: Susan Werner
Swerner48@yahoo.com