

## **Editor's Model of the Month**

Steve Ross brought three classic Rivarossi HO scale models from the 1970s to the Bring'n'Brag contest at our March meeting, including NYC #5446, a 4-8-4 Hudson locomotive whose streamlined shroud was designed by Henry Dreyfuss and applied to the class J-3a locomotives in 1937-38. Steve enhanced this model substantially: he added window "glass," installed Kadee couplers, painted the frame and trucks, and added the pinstripping decals on the tender. He did similar detailing to the non-streamlined #5405, and he painted and decalced the B&O switcher engine (for photos see page 7). He told the editor at the RPM Meet last month in Youngwood that this has been his favorite locomotive since he was a young'un. For more information and reporting on the RPM Meet (of which Steve is a driving organizational force), see the extra pages in the online edition, available at [www.keystonedivision.org/flyer.html](http://www.keystonedivision.org/flyer.html).

## **Meeting Schedule**

**April 27, 2025** - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm  
DARE Model Railroad Club  
800 Venetia Road  
Venetia, PA 15367  
Layout: Club opens for us before the meeting

**Saturday, May 3, 2025** - **Model RR Jamboree**  
CCAC Boyce Campus  
569 Beatty Road  
Monroeville, PA 15046  
**\*\*\* Details on page 9 \*\*\***

**May 18, 2025** - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm  
Ohio Valley Lines  
1225 Merchant Street  
Ambridge, PA 15003  
Layouts (N and HO): Club opens before the meeting  
Program: Dave Martinelli: "History's Forgotten Streamliner"

## **Bring'n'Brag**

<b>Jan 19</b>	<b>Anything Goes</b>
<b>Feb 16</b>	<b>Motive Power: Diesel / Electric / Traction</b>
<b>Mar 16</b>	<b>Motive Power: Steam</b>
<b>Apr 27</b>	<b>RR Company Structures (incl. Bridges/Trestles)</b>
<b>May 3</b>	<b>*** Model Railroad Jamboree ***</b>
<b>May 18</b>	<b>Freight Cars</b>
<b>Jun 22</b>	<b>Non-Revenue Cars (incl. Cabooses)</b>
<b>Aug 17</b>	<b>Vehicles</b>
<b>Sep 21</b>	<b>Passenger Cars</b>
<b>Oct 19</b>	<b>Non-Railroad Structures</b>
<b>Nov 16</b>	<b>Prototype Photos</b>

**Submission Deadline for  
next *Flyer*:  
May 4, 2025**

**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:**

**[CompanyStore@keystonedivision.org](mailto:CompanyStore@keystonedivision.org)**



## From the Super's Desk

In my February column, I wrote about the problem of member retention. While we are gaining new members, we are losing existing members at the same rate. While there can be

many reasons members don't renew their membership, I've seen some evidence that new members find it difficult to engage with existing members when they attend events or meetings. This can happen with existing members as well as members.

George Pandelios, Ken Hanawalt and I have been working on some ways we can address this problem and announced some new programs at the March Meeting.

To help new members break the ice, we want to create at least 3 **New Member Ambassadors**. We would like to have one in the Pittsburgh area, one in the Steubenville area and another in the West Virginia area. Each of these ambassadors would communicate with new members during their first year and help arrange contact with existing and other new members in their area who have similar modeling interests. We're hoping that this can be done with informal meetings, which can be layout visits or other sharing opportunities at either the existing or new members' home. There could also be meetings at a coffee shop or restaurant. Contact via phone or e-mail would be used but the goal is to help create personal connections that are valuable to both parties.

While this program will help new members, we want to create more value for existing members. At our monthly meetings, we usually have some form of clinic but we'd like to create more opportunities for members to share/receive information. We'd like to identify members who can serve as **Mentors** to other members.

A **Mentor** would be willing to share information about a topic at small gatherings in their home. This doesn't have to be a clinic type presentation but an informal gathering and discussion. It also doesn't have to be with someone who knows it all presenting it to others who want to learn. It could be a discussion among a group of members who are trying to learn more about some aspect of the hobby.

The key is to have members gather to learn and share. We all have a common interest in model railroading, but it is a meal that is best shared to the benefit of all.

... continued on page 4

### ERRATA

Kevin Squire is the new Regional Coordinator of the T-Trak (N scale) Modular Railroad group, not the Division Two director as was erroneously reported in the Minutes for the February meeting. This correction was announced at the March meeting, and the minutes were adopted with this revision.

## Executive Officers

### Superintendent

Dennis Coglianese  
(412) 418-9150  
Super@keystonedivision.org

### Assistant Superintendent

George Pandelios  
(717) 503-3192  
AsstSuper@keystonedivision.org

### Chief Clerk

Keith DeVault  
(304) 276-2509  
ChiefClerk@keystonedivision.org

### Treasurer

Jeff Gregg  
(724) 348-5855  
Treasurer@keystonedivision.org

## Line Officers & Committee Chairs

### Webmaster

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

### Membership

Ken Hanawalt  
(724) 941-3186  
Membership@keystonedivision.org

### Company Store

Susan Werner  
(724) 379-8584  
CompanyStore@keystonedivision.org

### Keystone Flyer Editor

Patrick Altdorfer  
(412) 559-3079  
Editor@keystonedivision.org

### Bring 'n' Brag

Dominic Martinelli  
BringNBrag@keystonedivision.org

### Achievement Program

Dennis Vaccaro, Chair  
(724) 929-2190  
Achievement@keystonedivision.org

Susan Werner, Asst. Chair  
(724) 379-8584

### Model Railroad Jamboree

Grier Kuehn  
Jamboree1@keystonedivision.org

Neal Schorr  
Jamboree2@keystonedivision.org

### Modular Layouts

FreeMo (HO scale)  
Rick Montgomery  
FreeMo@keystonedivision.org

T-Trak (N scale)  
Richie Jodon  
TTrak1@keystonedivision.org  
Jim Braum  
TTrak2@keystonedivision.org

S-Mod (S scale)  
Jim Whipple  
SMod@keystonedivision.org

Kevin Squire, Reg. Coord.

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 are also posted in full color on the Division website.

### March 16, 2025 Business Meeting

The March Division Meeting was called to order by Superintendent Dennis Coglianese at 2:30 p.m. at the Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society in Morgantown, West Virginia. Richard Turton, President of the Society spoke on behalf of the society thanking all in attendance, and be sure to see the upgraded Layout Rooms with new Lights, Fans and Heaters. We had 41 members in attendance with no new members or guests for the meeting.

The February minutes were approved with one correction, that Kevin Squire is not T-Trak Committee Chair for the Division but for the Region, and with a motion by Jeff Gregg (seconded by George Pandelios) the correction was accepted and the revised minutes approved.

#### Committee Reports

**Keystone Flyer:** Patrick Altdorfer reported that deadline for submission to the Flyer is the following Sunday after the meeting. There are still two pike ads for the flyer unpaid, please submit your payment as soon as possible to the treasurer.

**Financial Report:** Treasurer Jeff Gregg reported that we are in good standing and able to meet our financial obligations.

**Programs:** Asst. Superintendent George Pandelios reported that the April 27th meeting to be at the DARE Club in Venetia, PA. The program will be an interactive discussion about the DARE Model Railroad Club Expansion Plans and will be presented by Bryan Seip and Dave Stanton. The May 18th meeting will be at the Ohio Valley Lines in Ambridge, PA. The Program will be History's Forgotten Streamliner, given by Dave Martinelli.

**Company Store:** Susan Werner reports that she has one extra book by Dick Flock, some NYC Box Cars, trackside sheds and other miscellaneous items, so if you are interested, please stop at the store after the meeting.

**Membership:** Ken Hanawalt reports that we have 198 members with 1 new member, Chris Sutton from Greenville, PA on the roster. Please welcome Chris at the next meeting. He also pointed out that 7 past due members have not renewed, and he has sent out letters to each of them, asking them to rejoin the organization. The Incentive Program for referrals for members has been cancelled.

**Financial Oversight Committee:** No report.

**Website:** Tom Gaus reported the website is up to date, and he added a "pass the hat" button on the website for donations from members who are unable to attend a meeting.

**Social media:** Jimmy Braum reported that the Facebook page has been really busy with people sharing information and more people adding their names to the page.

**FreeMo:** Patrick Altdorfer said it was too early to register for the next Greenberg Show in Monroeville, but that it is scheduled for the first weekend in August.

**Bring 'n' Brag:** Dominic Martinelli stated that he had 4 entries in the category Steam Locomotives. The winners were Rick Montgomery (first place), Tom Catalano (second place), and Mike DeSensi (third place).

**Video Library:** Bud Brock asked the membership how many use the NMRA Video Library and please try the library as the NMRA is trying to fix the link, which is down temporarily. No one at the meeting had used the site.

**T-Trak Committee:** Jimmy Braum said the T-Trak Modules would be setting up with the Division at the Regional Convention in Columbus on May 15-18. Judging for your module will be available if you want it to be judged.

**Jamboree:** Grier Kuehn thanked Tom Gaus for keeping everything up to date on the website, the Clinics are posted. Grier spoke about the Jamboree being a recruitment tool for the Division to get new members and about the 9-month rail pass that is available to join the NMRA. Today the registration stands at 26 with 25 members and 1 new member with 16 banquets paid for as of this date. He thanked George Pandelios and Neal Schorr for all their hard work in helping to promote this event. George has been posting meeting and Jamboree notices on the O-Gauge Railroading (OGR) Forum. Neil told the local Train Collectors Association (TCA) chapter that they can attend for the same rate as NMRA member. Neal Schorr wrote a 4-page article about the Jamboree in the TCA chapter newsletter "The Lockon" to promote the Jamboree and the 3-railers who are members of both organizations. Grier then thanked Bob DiBenedetto for the donations for the raffle with a Walthers Kit and 2 HO Scale Locomotives. He also thanked George Pandelios for his donation. George Pandelios asked Division members to consider opening their layouts for the Sunday Layout Tour after the Jamboree. Please contact him via email if you are able to do so.

**Achievement Program:** Dennis Vaccaro provided an overview of the Advancement Program and then recognized Ken Hanawalt for his structures that were sent in to be judged. Only one scored under 100 points and one scored 113 points. Ken was presented with his merit certificates and then presented with his Master Model Railroading Certificate for Structures. Dennis then presented Ken with his merit certificates for Cars, of which one is a passenger car and the others are different types. Nothing scored below 90 points and most over 100 points, the minimum points that you can get to achieve your merit awards is 87½. Ken's Master Model Railroading Certificate for Cars was not received but the membership gave Ken a good round of applause for getting these certificates.

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# DIVISION NEWS

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## *From the Super's Desk*

*continued from page 2*

The key is to have members gather to learn and share. We all have a common interest in model railroading, but it is a meal that is best shared to the benefit of all.

To facilitate these programs, Ken Hanawalt has developed a member questionnaire to collect information about the interests of each of our members and their willingness to participate in these programs. We distributed it to the attendees of the March meeting and received almost 100% response. We will continue to distribute these at all meetings and are working on a way to allow members who aren't able to attend meetings to fill out the questionnaire.

We want all members to complete these questionnaires. This information you provide **WILL NOT** be shared with the membership (other than any statistical information). We want to identify members who are willing to participate in these new programs and match their interests with other participants in these programs.

These are new programs and just getting started. The initial response has been very gratifying, and I would personally request you all give this a try. We'll have more details in the next several months.

I'd like to thank Chuck Endreola, Superintendent of MCR Division 7, for sharing information about similar programs they have implemented, and I'm hoping we can enjoy the same success.

I would be remiss if I didn't remind you all that our annual Jamboree is coming up on May 3. This is an event for all members as well as other modelers who are not yet members. Come and encourage others to attend. We provide a 9-month Rail Pass NMRA membership to all non-NMRA attendees so that they can be introduced to our group. Please take advantage of this opportunity to gather, learn and socialize.

*... Dennis Coglianese*

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## **Minutes**

*continued from page 3*

Old Business - None at this time.

New Business - None at this time.

Concerns and Questions: It was brought up about bad weather for this region for meetings and whether we could do zoom meetings. Superintendent Coglianese spoke about this situation and as of right now, that cannot happen because of the meetings are held in different locations with no WI-FI. He would welcome the idea if it could be worked out.

For the Good of the Division: Steve Ross talked about the Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet to be held at the Westmoreland Community College in Youngwood, PA on March 21<sup>st</sup> and March 22<sup>nd</sup>. He announced that 38 clinics have been scheduled along with 20 vendors with a total of 43 tables. There will also be Operating Sessions on Thursday afternoon and Thursday Evening at various layouts in the area. This is sponsored by our division and the event has 196 people registered. You can register at the door for both days or just one day at a cost of \$22 per day. He also would like for people attending the event to bring models for display only.

It was asked about since some of the meetings and locations are at different places with some being longer drives for some members and starting a CARPOOL. It will be talked about at the next meeting in more detail.

Superintendent Coglianese announced two new initiatives to help members engage with other members:

The **New Member Ambassador Program** will help new members to "Break the Ice." He would like to have 3 Area Ambassadors with one in the Pittsburgh Area, one in the Steubenville area, and one in the Morgantown Area. It would give new members someone close to where they live with whom the Ambassador could connect them and

potentially arrange personal visits (layout tours, discussions or other personal communications).

The **Mentor Program** will identify members that are willing to provide assistance and advice to other members (both old and new) so that they can learn new skills. It would also create connections with both new and existing members to answer any questions about the division and about any help they may need in building their layout. This assistance can be member to member or small in-home gatherings as well as layout visits.

He would like to see a social time officially start around 2pm before the start of the business meeting to greet and talk to new members and introduce yourself to them and existing members who you may not know.

Ken Hanawalt passed around a questionnaire to be filled out by all members. This will provide more information about the type of modeling our members are interested in as well as help identify members that are willing to share their skills and knowledge through the Mentor and New Member Ambassador program.

The following events are coming up:

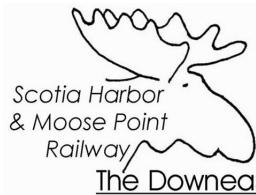
- Buckeye Express: the Regional Convention to be held May 15 to 18 near Columbus, Ohio at Dublin; and
- the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Narrow Gauge Show to be held 20-22 March in Salem, Ohio.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35pm.

The program entitled "Why Bother Building a Diorama" was presented by Richard Turton after the meeting.







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

## Cumberland and Lake Erie Railroad



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rdemdsd40@yahoo.com



## PRR Panhandle Division



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



The ASPEN SUB along the B&O  
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Northern Division

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Chief Engineer John Bennett  
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## Rutland & Rock Ridge

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Haulin' Black Diamonds

Fred Roney, President  
fredron@zoominternet.net



## FORKS RIDGE RAILWAY

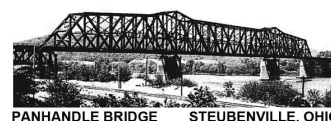
Gary P. Nastase - President & CEO  
Kathleen A. Nastase - Train Wifey ... R.I.P.  
207 State Street  
Woodbury, PA 16695  
gpastase02j2o@gmail.com



Route of the  
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GROWING  
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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 March Bring 'n' Brag category was **Motive Power: Steam**. We had four entries this month:



**Rick Montgomery** won **first place** for his weathered HO scale C&O #494, a 4-8-2 Mountain locomotive from Mehano with a combine (Vanderbilt) tender, which Rick decalced and then weathered using powders (ash grey, soot black, and rust).



**Second Place** went to **Tom Catalano**, for his Monogram plastic model kit (HO scale) of Chessie #312, a 4-6-4 Hudson locomotive, which he custom painted and applied some "very old" decals.



The **third place** winner was **Mike DeSensi**, who entered his Bachmann N scale model of a Class EM1 locomotive, B&O #7602, an EM1 (aka 2-8-8-4 Yellowstone from Baldwin), which he weathered demurely with an airbrush.

The fourth entrant was **Steve Ross**, who brought a beautiful trio of old time power: two NYC J3a Hudsons — the classic #5446 (on the cover) and its "less pretty" sister #5405 — and B&O #99, an 0-4-0 switcher engine and tender (both below). All of these are Rivarossi HO scale models from the 1970s, which he detailed to a high standard: to the Hudsons he added Kadee couplers, window "glass," and painted various components and added decals; he painted and decalced the switcher engine. Steve also displayed these models at the RPM Meet in Youngwood in March.



Photos by Patrick Altdorfer

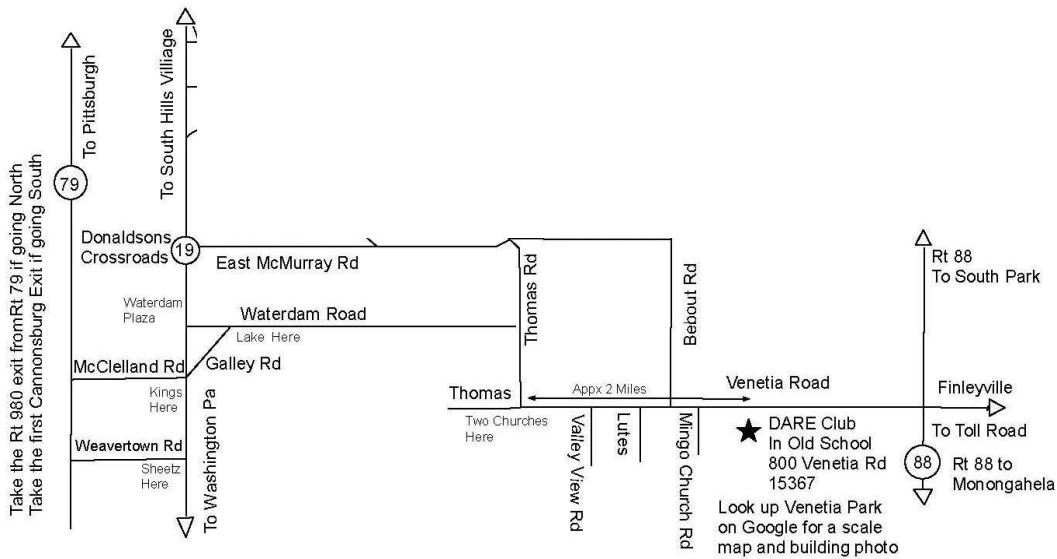
Name	pts	Name	pts
Dennis Lippert	4	Tom Catalano	2
Rick Montgomery	4	Kevin Squire	2
Neal Schorr	3	Mike DeSensi	1
Bill Auman	2	Steve Ross	1



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

# MEETING TIMETABLE

## April 27: D.A.R.E. Model RR Club, Venetia, PA



Our April meeting site is once again the **Venetia Heritage Center (800 Venetia Road, Venetia, PA 15367)**, home to the D.A.R.E. Model Railroad Club, which has hosted on several occasions in the past. The club will open before the meeting so we get a chance to see the many layouts in different scales. The post-meeting program is still TBD. **NOTE:** This is the 4th Sunday in the month; we voted at the February meeting to move this meeting date so as not to coincide with Easter Sunday.

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

## Saturday, May 3: Model Railroad Jamboree, Monroeville, PA

The event that almost needs no introduction (re-read page 6 if you are lost), this year will be held again at the Boyce Campus of CCAC (**595 Beatty Road, Monroeville, PA 15146**).



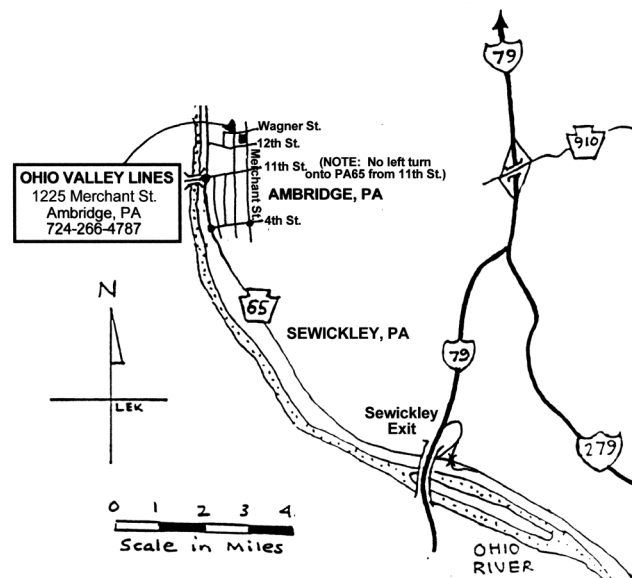
From points east or west: Take US Route 22 to Monroeville, turn north onto Haymaker Road, continue onto Beatty Road;

From the south: Take I-76 West to the Pittsburgh/Monroeville exit, then take US 22 East to left onto Old William Penn Highway, and turn right onto Beatty Road;

From the north/northwest: Take I-76 East to the Pittsburgh/Monroeville exit, then take US 22 West to north onto Haymaker Road, continue onto Beatty Road.

## May 18: Ambridge, PA

Our May monthly meeting will not be held at the Jamboree as in past years, but held on the 3rd Sunday of the month. This year we return to the Ohio Valley Lines model railroad club (**1225 Merchant Street, Ambridge, PA 15003**). There are two wonderful layouts — one HO scale and one N scale — that will be open and operating for our enjoyment. After the meeting, Dave Martinelli will present a program entitled “History’s Forgotten Streamliner.”
















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



NEXT MEETING:  
 DARE Model Railroad Club, Venetia, PA, April 27

<p><b>Montour Railroad</b></p> <p>FAST FREIGHT SERVICE          EMPLOYEE OWNED          SINCE 1985          JEFF GREGG - PRESIDENT          Phone 724-348-5855          Finleyville, PA</p> 	<p><b>ERIE Connecting Railroad Company</b></p>  <p>Richard Reichenbach - Operations Manager          162 Clearwater Drive, Ellwood City, PA 16117  <a href="mailto:Ricky759@outlook.com">Ricky759@outlook.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society</b>          5000 Greenbag Road, Unit D-13          Morgantown, WV 26501</p> <p>Meeting Thursdays at 7:00 PM</p> <p><a href="http://www.MVRRHS.org">www.MVRRHS.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>  <a href="http://mckeesportmodelrr.com">mckeesportmodelrr.com</a></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  <a href="http://www.bcmrr.railfan.net">www.bcmrr.railfan.net</a></p> 



# 2025 JAMBOREE NEWS

## Facility Map

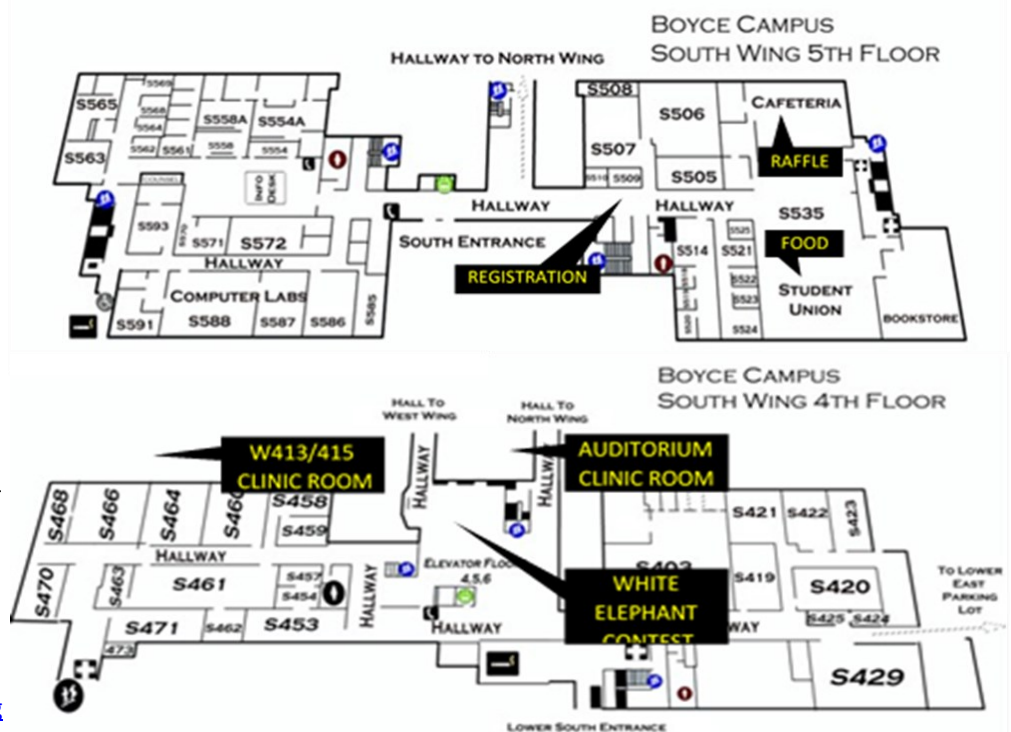
This year's Jamboree will again be held at the Boyce Campus of Community College of Allegheny County, Monroeville, PA. In order to minimize confusion, below you will find diagrams of the facility. Take a few minutes to study the maps in order to familiarize yourself with the layout of the school.

As you drive into the campus, the South Entrance door will be immediately in front of you. You can park in either lot on either side of the entrance road, then enter the building using the South Entrance door as noted on the diagram below. You will be on the fifth floor. Turn to your right and walk down the hall to the registration desk. Once you register, you can proceed down the hall to the Student Union where breakfast will be served. The raffle will also be held in the Student Union/Cafeteria.

The clinics, contests, white elephant sale, and display layouts are all located on the fourth floor. They can be reached by stairways near the registration desk and South Entrance. There is also an elevator across from the South Entrance.

Clinic Room One is in the fourth floor auditorium, and Clinic Room Two is down the hall to the left of the auditorium in classrooms W413/415. The contests, white elephant sale, and display layouts including T-Trak will all held in the Auditorium Lobby directly in front of the auditorium.

Please take a few minutes to study the diagrams below to familiarize yourself with the facility so you can minimize your time searching for the events you are looking for and maximize your time enjoying them! Directional signs will be posted as well.



## Checklist

- Register at [www.keystonedivision.org](http://www.keystonedivision.org)
- Havr your friends register too
- Enter the “no pressure” popular vote contests
- Sell at the White Elephant Sale
- Bring CASH for raffle tickets as well as purchases at the White Elephant Sale (no ATM on campus!)

All details are continuously updated on the Division website

## Donations Still Being Accepted for the Raffle

We all have new quality items we will never use. Please consider bringing them to the April 27th division meeting and giving them to Rob Twigger, Dave Martinelli, or Grier Kuehn for the Raffle. A number of members have already made generous donations. Several of these donations are of very high value. A big thank you goes out to those who have donated.

## 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 ASAP at [AsstSuper@keystonedivision.org](mailto:AsstSuper@keystonedivision.org) or (717) 503-3192. Thank you!

# RPM-EAST 2025 A SUCCESS

The Railroad Prototype Modelers (East) Meet in March 2025 seemed to go off without a hitch, in the eyes of the editor (who could only make the Saturday session, unfortunately). This event is sponsored by Division Two, and several of our members were in attendance at the event, and some are driving forces behind this event, including **Steve Ross** and **Don Coulter**, to name just two. Among the 35+ clinicians who presented at the event were several Keystone Division members, including **Jimmy Braum**, **Kent Colvin**, **Keith DeVault**, **Denny Lippert**, **George Pandelios**, **Neal Schorr**, and **Roy Ward**. Attendees hailed from all over the country, and I believe that I heard that there was at least one attendee from Canada.



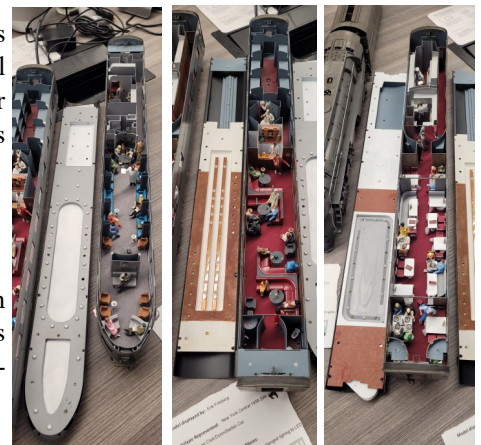
The Model Room



Among the models on display were several interesting O scale locomotives and rolling stock models (left, center left, and below) from **Erik Fritzberg**, who has also entered his models in the Bring'n' Brag and Jamboree contests last year; here are a few images of the models he brought to RPM. I believe that the B&O E7 in "Beauty" Scheme (below left) is the same brass locomotive that Erik brought to the February meeting (see March Flyer, p. 9), which at that time had not yet been painted. It lives up to its moniker.



Erik also puts a lot of detail into passenger car interiors (right).



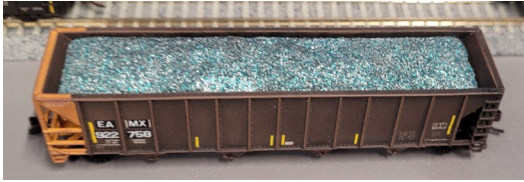
An AeroTrain of the PRR in HO scale, by Railworks Brass models (left; modeler unknown).



Alongside his two NYC Hudsons and B&O switcher engine, **Steve Ross** displayed West Penn Railways Interurban streetcar #736 (HO scale), a model he kitbashed from two Brill trolleys (Bachmann) for operation on the Youngwood Model RR Club layout. He added Champ decals but sourced the Herald and end signs from a primary source (book image, photocopied and reduced).



# RPM-EAST 2025 A SUCCESS



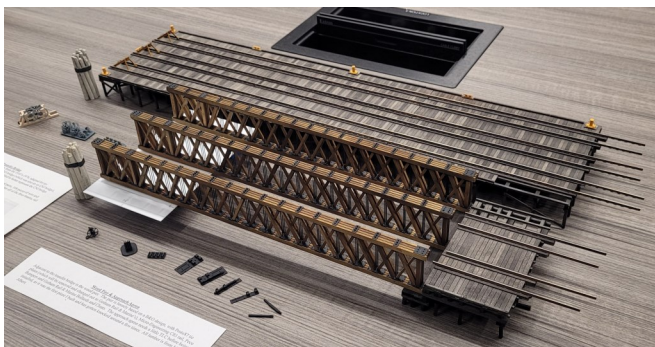
A few attendees displayed convincing loads, made out of seemingly random items (such as cardboard packaging like cereal box sides to make loads of sheet steel). **Jason Mauser** showed his scrap glass loads, which looked an awful lot like the prototype — after using foam to form the basic shape of the load for his N scale hoppers, he covered that with paint and glitter to achieve the iridescent effect.

**Rob Bennett** presented a clinic on creating transformer loads; in the model room, he displayed a variety of transformers and provided a history of their components, construction, and transport modalities over time, so that modelers can avoid anachronisms.



There were also some well done structures in various scales (mostly HO), but two of the most impressive ones (in my view) were these N scale offerings: **Steve Holzheimer** brought his General Tire factory (top) with prototype information on the Akron facility), including the spitting image of its headquarters building; and **Ken Stroebel** brought his model of the Sherwin-Williams paint factory in Garland, Texas (bottom). Both presented a comprehensive rendering of these industrial sites (compared to the prototype photos they each provided of their respective doppelgangers).

This modeler (name not displayed) showed an in-progress Howe Truss Pontoon Bridge and Pier and Apron Approach (bottom), based on CNJ and B&O prototypes (photos at right), which they are scratch-building for their home layout, using Mt. Albert scale lumber, 3d prints of NBWs, tie plates, bollards, and cleats from Gotham Rail & Marine (who had a table in the vendor room), as well as Peco bumpers and Micro-Engineering C83 rail.





# RPM-EAST 2025 A SUCCESS

Increasingly popular in the hobby, T-Trak modules made an appearance at the event as well. Here in the model room, **Jason Mauser** set up three of the modules he built for the Iron City N Scale club, to which several other members of Division Two also belong. His glass scrap hoppers can be seen in the trains on the perimeter (on the table, four in each cut of cars outside of the module).



**Steve Raque** brought several cuts of HO scale cars that he weathered to appear to have been pretty beaten-up while serving their respective industries, such as the Kling cars that worked the steel mills, the 2- and 3-bay covered hoppers of P&LE that look as though they worked cement plants, and the myriad tank cars in the background that served myriad industries.

**Scooter Hovenal** brought a fleet of locomotives and rolling stock that were heavily weathered; they looked to represent more or less the modern era, from the mid-to late 1990s and onward, based on the age of the cars and the amount of graffiti.



Unfortunately there was no prototype photo to accompany this model, which **Rick Blackford** brought for display in the model room. Advertising on the outside of freight and tank cars is not new, of course, but what struck me was that this tank car was also tapped, surely a violation of the FRA's strict rules prohibiting trackside alcohol use by railroad employees. Nonetheless, it is making me thirsty now, so that's all she wrote for this issue!

