Jamboree Extra (pages 10-12)







Editor's Model of the Month

Rick Montgomery won first place in the April Bring 'n' Brag contest for his PRR Block and Interlocking Station (exterior view on page 6). He built this detailed interior for the tower, showing typical features of such a worksite, including the CTC Panel, the switch machine, office furniture, five employees, and of course a large clock (showing Standard Time, one presumes — at least this one is correct twice each day). The stained hardwood flooring and pastel blue walls struck me as especially authentic.

Meeting Schedule

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"
June 22, 2025 - Division 2 Meeting, 2:30pm Marshall Township Municipal Building 525 Pleasant Hill Road, Suite 100 Wexford, PA 15090
Program: Neal Schorr, "50 Years in the Making"

Layout: Neal hosts an open house after the meeting

July 14-19, 2025 - NMRA 90th Convention, Novi, Michigan

August 17, 2025 - Summer Picnic - details next month

Bring'n'Brag

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

Submission Deadline for next *Flyer*: May 25, 2025

Visit us online at 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:



From the Super's Desk

The annual Keystone Division Model Railroad Jamboree was held this past weekend (May 3). This annual event allows our members to enjoy a day of camaraderie attending clinics, entering

modeling contests, and sitting down with other modelers to share our passion for the hobby of model railroading.

We all do this differently, but this type of event is where we learn about how others are doing it and often get a new perspective. It can also be the time that something we are doing solves someone's problem or inspires someone else to take a chance on something they've been putting off doing.

The Jamboree Committee co-chairs, Grier Kuehn and Neal Shorr, spend most of the year preparing for this event and thanks to them, it's always a great day!

This year, the weather played a big role in the days just prior to the event. The line of storms that came through the Pittsburgh area on Tuesday, April 29 knocked down trees and power lines all over, but the venue that hosts the event had its power restored minutes before we would have had to cancel the caterer and the event! We were also concerned that many of our members might also be affected by the storm damage and wouldn't be able to attend.

Grier and Neal put together a team of 28 volunteers who handled all the different activities. They also received donations from 32 individuals or vendors that donated \$4,500 in high quality merchandise for the raffle, which is a significant fundraiser. Lots of members collected prizes that were worth significantly more than the amount they spent on raffle tickets.

We also had excellent clinicians sharing their knowledge and skills as well as excellent lunch and dinner speakers.

On behalf of all our membership, I want to thank Grier, Neal and the entire Jamboree crew for an excellent event and a job well done!

Something tells me, they're already planning for next year!

... Dennis Coglianese



This T-Trak N scale module presents a lot of switching opportunities in a compact (1ft x 3ft) space. It was set up just outside the White Elephant and Contest area at the Jamboree; the S gaugers were also present with their modules.

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(724) 379-8584

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Neal Schorr

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FreeMo@keystonedivision.org

<u>S-Mod (S scale)</u> Jim Whipple SMod@keystonedivision.org T-Trak (N scale) Richie Jodon

TTrak1@keystonedivision.org Jim Braum

TTrak2@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]. 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.

Minutes

Keith DeVault

April 27, 2025 Business Meeting

The April Division Meeting was called to order by Superintendent Dennis Coglianese at 2:30pm at the D.A.R.E. Model Railroad Club in Venetia, PA. Dave Stanton, representing the club, thanked everyone for attending. He told the group that D.A.R.E. is a non-profit club with the greatest volunteers whose sole purpose is to help kids in the community. He also said that three of the young members are now working in the railroad industry.

We had 49 members in attendance with Tom Businger and his wife joining us for the meeting. They are new members who joined us this past year. Tom mentioned that he will have his layout open on Sunday after the Jamboree.

Committee Reports

Keystone Flyer: Patrick Altdorfer reported that the deadline for submission to the Flyer is the following Sunday after the meeting. If you would like to submit any article for the Flyer, please send him an email along with a text message.

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 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. The June 22nd meeting will be held at the Marshall Township Building in Wexford, with Neal Schorr presenting a program called "50 Years in the Making." George noted that all remaining meeting locations for the year and their programs have been finalized.

Company Store: Susan Werner reports that she has some NYC Box Cars, cleaning car kits built by Ken Hanawalt, City Classics porch swings, 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 193 members with 2 new members Stacey Mansuri and Laura Jodon. He also pointed out that 9 past due members have not renewed, and he has sent out letters to each of them, asking them to rejoin the organization.

Financial Oversight Committee: No report.

Website: Tom Gaus reported that he has cleaned up the website and all information are up to date. He added a button on the website for miscellaneous information, and it was suggested that he also add the Bring 'n' Brag category to each month's meeting information on the website.

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. Check out the Facebook page and see what prominent person with NMRA has joined the group.

FreeMo: Rick Montgomery is the new Chairman of this committee. He will be asking the membership and members of the committee what needs to be done to improve this committee. If you have any suggestions, please get in touch with Rick.

Bring 'n' Brag: Dominic Martinelli stated that he had 4 entries in the category Railroad Company Structures, with First Place going to Rick Montgomery, Second Place to Tom Catalano, and Third Place to Jimmy Braum. Dominic announced that the Bring 'n' Brag category for the meeting in Ambridge on May 18th will be Freight Cars.

Video Library: Bud Brock was absent, so no report.

T-Trak: Jimmy Braum reported that the T-Trak Committee displayed modules at the Beaver County Train Show, and that group was very pleased with the T-Trak Group. There are no new shows planned until November.

Kevin Squire, Regional T-Trak Committee Chair, requested that anyone planning to bring T-Trak modules to the Regional Convention in Columbus on May 15-18 to let him know. Judging for your module will be available if you want but is not required.

Jamboree: Grier Kuehn thanked Tom Gaus for making up 4 different name badges for the Jamboree to help identify new and newer members. So, if you are not one of the members of the division, please introduce yourself and make these people welcome and thank them for coming to the Jamboree. This is one of the outstanding events for the division to recruit new members. Grier introduced Bill Sartore with Microlumina LLC and Railroad Kits, who will be attending the Jamboree and presenting a clinic. Please go to the website (www.railroadkits.com) if you would like to purchase from him. He offers a discount of 10% to any NMRA member, and a 15% discount for Jamboree attendees who pre-order on the website (for pickup at the event). Neil stated that the deadline to register for the banquet is tonight, April 28. George reported that he has 15 layouts open for the Sunday Layout Tours along with Hobby Express, which will give a discount to any Jamboree attendees that show their name badges. Grier then thanked Dave Martinell and Rob Twigger for spending 4 hours with him and going over all the raffle merchandise donations that will total over \$4,500 dollars.

Achievement Program: Dennis Vaccaro has one Golden Spike Award that was just submitted, and one Certificate still has not arrived. He also has one certificate that was just handed in today. Please work on your certificates and if you need help all you have to do is ASK.

Old Business - None at this time.

<u>New Business</u> - Dennis Vaccaro proposed a Fall Module Extravaganza to be held in the Salem, Ohio area tentative in October. The purpose is to bring to-

... continued on page 4

DIVISION NEWS

Call For Picnic Volunteers

Our annual picnic meeting is **Sunday**, **August 17** at our usual location, Henle Park in Leetsdale. In order to make the picnic a more enjoyable event for everyone (including those helping), I am asking for volunteers to assist in these areas (so far):

- Set-up Crew: 3-4 folks to handle table set-up, garbage bags, utensils, prepare the grill, and basically get the party started.
- 2) Coolers & Ice: We need 4 people to sign up to bring a good-sized cooler with ice.
- 3) Cooks: We will need 4 folks who will rotate in this duty. Burgers and dogs are on the menu.
- 4) Tear-down Crew: 3-4 folks to handle clearing up the tables, putting out the cooking fire and disposing of the ashes, picking up any stray trash, etc.

And as is standard procedure, the Division will supply the meat, bread, sodas, and water.

Please let me know (via e-mail), how many people will be in your party and what food (side-dish or dessert) you will bring. [Bring 1 serving for every item you will put on your plate (usually 6) times the number in your party.]

Please don't hesitate to contact me with suggestions or questions.

George Pandelios Assistant Superintendent

Minutes

continued from page 3

gether as many modular layouts of all sizes and scales, from PA, OH, and WV, although others may participate, to showcase this aspect of the model railroad hobby. Clinics along with other activities are planned to show many people that you do not need a large room to enjoy the model railroad hobby.

For the Good of the Division:

Keystone Flyer

Ken Hanawalt explained the New Member Ambassador program, which will help new members "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 and potentially arrange personal visits (layout tours, discussions, or other personal communications).

The Mentor Program will identify members who 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 around start at 2:00pm before the start of the business meeting to greet and talk to new members and introduce yourself to them and existing members that 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.

Patrick Altdorfer offered that a friend of his is liquidating his S scale collection; if you are interested in that scale, please contact Patrick directly and he will put you in touch.

Bob DiBenedetto told the group about Wintersville, Ohio having a day in August devoted to Trains and asked if the division has any type of flyers that he could hand out. It was mentioned that the National organization may have Rack Cards. Ken Hanawalt told him that he has some information papers that may help.

What's on Your Workbench? Vagel Keller said that the passing of the spider that lived in an old Revell station kit built in 1978 (but collecting dust since then) has spurred him to incorporate the station into his Path Valley Lines layout.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:31pm.

A program entitled "What Ideas do you Have for our Layout at the



D.A.R.E. Club?" was presented by Brian Seip and Dave Stanton after the meeting.



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

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vckeller@comcast.net

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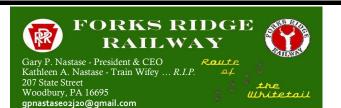


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Contact: NEW MEMBERS

OHIO RIVER NORTHERN RAILWAY CLUB

Bring'n'Brag

Dominic Martinelli

The April Bring 'n' Brag category was Railroad Company Structures

(including Bridges & Trestles). We had four entries:

Rick Montgomery won first place for his PRR Block and Interlocking Station in HO scale (left). Rick started with a Walthers kit, which he painted, weathered, added lighting, and modified to permit the removal of the roof and side wall that reveals the interior details he added (cover page). This tower was based on the PRR Tower at Maple Grove.





Second Place went to **Tom Catalano** for his set of three cardstock structures in *Z* scale (far left), including a two-car garage and train station (center left), to which he added details.

The **third place** winner was **Jimmy Braum**, who entered his P&WV girder bridge (below), which he kitbashed and detailed to match the prototype.

brought a photo of his O scale rendering of the PRR bridge that carried the Panhandle Division

over the Ohio River at Weirton/Steubenville.



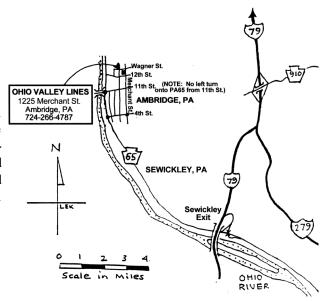
_	Name	pts	Name	pts	
	Rick Montgomery	7	Bill Auman	2	
	Dennis Lippert	4	Kevin Squire	2	
	Tom Catalano	4	Jimmy Braum	1	
	Neal Schorr	3	Mike DeSensi	1	
			Steve Ross	1	

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

May 18: Ambridge, PA

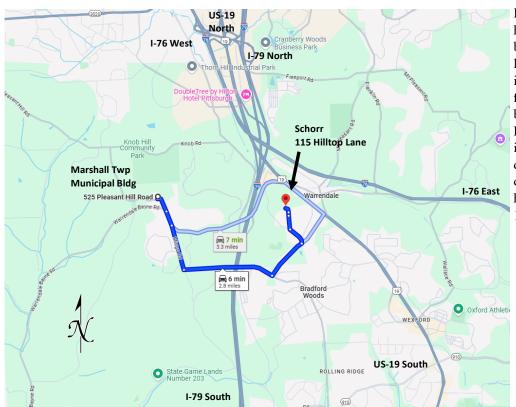
Our May monthly meeting will not be held at the Jamboree as in past years, but held on the 3rd Sunday of the month. This year we return to the Ohio Valley Lines model railroad club (1225 Merchant Street, Ambridge, PA 15003). There are two wonderful layouts — one HO scale and one N scale — that will be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



The maps provided are for general orientation; as always, <u>please use a</u>

June 22: Wexford, PA

Our June meeting will be held on the 4th Sunday of June — that is the Sunday <u>after</u> Father's Day — at the Marshall Township Municipal Building (525 Pleasant Hill Road, Wexford, PA 15090). After the business meeting, Neal Schorr will present a program entitled "50+ Years in the Making," about which you can read a more detailed preview on page 9 (online edition).



In addition to his clinic, Neal will have his layout open for us to visit before the meeting. Neal's home is located five minutes from the meeting site (115 Hilltop Lane, Wexford, PA 15090). Parking is available only on Vander Road, because Hilltop Lane is private and no parking is available there or in Neal's driveway. He will post signs that direct visitors to the walk down to his house. Hours are 11:30am to 1:30pm.

The Keystone Flyer

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



NEXT MEETING:

Ohio Valley Lines Model Railroad Club, Ambridge, PA, May 18

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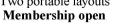
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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

June Program by Neal Schorr: "Fifty+ Years in the Making"

Neal Schorr's clinic and open house are a celebration of the completion of the scenery on his layout after 27 years and five months of construction. The clinic will briefly cover his early layouts starting 50 years ago when he was a teenager and will discuss how each one became progressively more realistic. It will then focus on the simultaneous designing of the layout and his house to accommodate the railroad. Finally, it includes pictures of the day work started on the layout, construction photos taken over many years, some of his favorite photos of the layout as work progressed, and images of the completed scenery. The layout will be open prior to the monthly Division meeting from 11:30am to 1:30pm. Directions are on page 7.

George Pandelios model featured in the model press

George Pandelios' model of the Weirton Steel open-hearth in O scale was featured as the cover photo of the Spring 2025 issue of *Steel Mill Modeler's Journal*, with his article on its construction published inside. For more information about modeling the steel industry, consider joining the NMRA's Steel Mill Modelers Special Interest Group (SMMSIG); details can be found at www.smmsig.org.



JAMBOREE EXTRA

The Model Railroad Jamboree was held on Saturday, May 3rd, at CCAC -Boyce Park, the same venue as last year. This annual event is a highlight of Division Two, and it helps us to cap off each year with a focused opportunity for learning, sharing, and fellowship, and to celebrate our members' modeling achievements over the previous year, as well as to introduce non-members to the Division and to the NMRA.

The event includes a popular vote Model Contest (similar to our monthly Bring 'n' Brag contest), and thanks go to Bring 'n' Brag chair Dominic Martinelli for organizing and documenting the great work of the attendees who entered models this year, in four familiar categories (and their respective winners, shown at right, being presented with their plaques by Dominic, and clockwise from top left): Structures (Grier Kuehn), Rolling Stock (Vinny Kaplack), Vehicles (Tom Catalano) and Motive Power (Timothy Moffat). Dominic's photos of the models are presented on the next page.

The culmination of a year's worth of modeling efforts shared with the other members at our monthly meetings resulted in the awarding of the Modeler of the Year title (and plaque) to the modeler who earned the most points over 2024 in our monthly "Bring 'n' Brag" model



contest. This contest is decided by popular vote each meeting, with the first, second, and third place winners earning 3, 2, or 1 point, respectively, which are in turn tallied at the end of the

year to determine the





winner. This year, the title was (again!) bestowed upon Rick Montgomery, who won this award last year as well for the models he shared with us over the course of 2023. Rick models primarily in HO scale, although he is known to dabble in other scales.as

Another way for members to hone their skills is by working toward specific goals laid out in the NMRA Achievement Program. Members submit models and layouts to AP chair Dennis Vaccaro, who assembles a team for a home visit to critically examine and

judge the work. Completion of a number of certificates in each of four different areas (equipment, setting, engineering, and service) can lead to fulfillment of the rquuirements for earning the "Master Model Railroader" recognition. At lunchtime, Dennis called on three MMRs to join him at the front of the room to present Ken Hanawalt (MMR #792) with his MMR plaque.

> After making remarks about his experience working toward MMR #792, Ken Hanawalt (left) joined fellow MMRs (from left to right) Mike Hohn (#334), Richard Turton (#734), and Susan Werner (#729) for this photo as they welcome him to the "club."



JAMBOREE EXTRA

The Model Contest



Grier Kuehn won in the category "Structures" for his neighborhood pizza shop in HO scale (left), which he built from a City Classics company house kit, to which he added the brick storefront and enclosed stairway, as well as adding shingles, vents, electric service, and DIY signage made on his PC, among other details; inside the shop he included a patterned floor, lighting, a counter, background walls, and customers.

Rick Montgomery entered his PRR interlocking tower (right) in this category (which he also presented to the May meeting BnB contest; see page 6 and cover photo).





In the category "Rolling Stock," Vinny Kaplack won for his C&O 3-bay covered hopper, an HO scale model he distressed, weathered, and to which he added graffiti; that rust looks super

It is ironic to see a dirty covered hopper bound almost certainly for a Proctor & Gamble detergent plant. Rick Montgomery brought this weather-beaten Menards/Lionel O scale car for our snickering enjoyment.

With this patched out Wheeling and Lake Erie hopper, Jimmy Braum seems to be saying that his favorite railroad either has a keen eye for modern art or an unusual sense of fleet maintenance.





Tom Catalano placed first in "Vehicles" with his N scale CAD-designed and 3D-printed International rollback trucks, having each recovered a derelict Ford car (60s sedan and 80s wagon). Those safety stripes are decals of his own making!



Rick Montgomery brought two Walthers HO scale Ronnoco Coffee straight jobs, which he aged and weathered, and the box on the red one appears to have once tangled with a wall.

The iconic Tri-Five Chevys were, are now, and always will be classics, and Rob Twigger brought this gorgeous 1/16 scale example of his family's daily driver, a '55 Nomad with a story of how Dad let him lightly modify it within his budget. What he could afford included wrapping the new Cragar chrome mag wheels with Goodyear GT tires, de-badging the hood and taillights, and doing some body work and repainting the car red. I don't know if it's a true story, but I choose to believe it!



Photos by Dominic Martinelli, text by Patrick Altdorfer



Another heavily weathered locomotive was this URR 25, an

MP 15 road switcher that Jimmy Braum entered in the contest.



Rick Montgomery entered two Walthers Proto 2000 HO scale GP-20 locomotives: Conrail 2103 and the very heavily weathered NYC 6109.



JAMBOREE EXTRA

Other scenes from around the event



Division Two, extending an invitation to non-members to join.

Below: Neal Schorr introduces Mitch Dakelman, NRHS Film and Photo Archivist and partner of Periscope Films, who presented the vintage documentary film America's Busiest River: The Monongahela, which you can watch on YouTube here.

Not pictured: After the banquet, Matthew Hurst discussed his enthusiasm for the hobby and how it led him to model the Huntingdon and Broad Top Railroad.

Top left: After the morning clinics, Superintendent Dennis Coglianese welcomed attendees to lunch and the Jamboree and spoke briefly on



Left: More than five thousand dollars worth of prizes, donated by generous Division Two members, hobby vendors, and manufacturers, were raffled off to members who bought tickets. This both helps to fund this event, and it also puts a lot of fun into this event for the attendees.





Right: Larry Willming brought his Inglenook switching puzzle, which he built last fall. This N scale module is about 1ft deep by 4ft long, and he demonstrated to attendees how the game works (the object is to build a train based on a random selection of five of the eleven cars arranged randomly on the three sidings).





Right: Mike DeSensi brought his N scale layout with an urban scene on one side and western vistas on the other.

Left: This micro-layout has one side set in Autumn, and the other side set in winter.





Well Deserved Recognition from the Jamboree Co-Chairs

We send a huge thank you out to all our members who worked very hard to make 2025 another successful Jamboree. There are too many names to list here, but they were all recognized in the printed program. Without these volunteers there would be no.... Promotional Flyer, Treasurer, Registration, Food Set-Up, White Elephant Sale, Raffle, Door Prizes, Company Store, Contests, Displays, Layouts, Sunday Layout Tours or Security.

There are two other groups that need special recognition. First are the 35+ division members, dealers and national companies who made donations valued at over \$5000 for the raffle. Without the raffle ticket sales proceeds, there would be no Jamboree.

And special recognition goes out to the 12 clinicians as well as the after lunch and dinner speakers. Their presentations were exceptional and a big thank you to each, particularly the five who traveled in from out of town.

And last but not least, thanks to all 92 attendees.

Grier Kuehn and Neal Schorr