

# ***TRAIN OF THOUGHT***

## **MON VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc.**

### **November, 2023**



### ***EDITORS NOTE***

November is National Model Railroad month and we are less than two (2) weeks until our one day Open House on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am til 4pm. We need workers for this event, Please set aside some time to help. This open house is the time for us to show the public that model railroading is a wonderful & fulfilling hobby. It's a time we can show people how proud we are of our hobby and Society!

Work sessions will soon wrap up for a short time. We need to clean up our clubhouse. As we finish working, we need to throw away trash, put away tools & construction materials and make the society shine for our guests. Please help!

Finally, we are back up to forty (40) members, which makes all the more important that we have at least ten (10) members present at business meetings. Our Society can't hold a valid meeting unless enough members show up on business meeting Thursdays. Please try to make it to meetings.

Model Railroading is Fun!

*Rich Henderson, Editor*



### ***Minutes of the October 5, 2023 Business Meeting***

Call to order by President Richard T. at 7pm with 13 members, including 5 of 6 officers, attending. The Vice President was not present.

#### **Minutes of the previous meeting:**

Wally V. moved that we approve the minutes of the September 7th business meeting as published in the October newsletter, motion seconded by Rich H. Motion approved.

#### **Treasurer's report (Keith D.):**

The Society remains in good financial standing and continues to meet its financial obligations.

#### **Publicity (Rich H.):**

The PayPal Giving Fund, new administrator of donations for Facebook / Meta, will charge 1.99% of donations to non-profits with a \$0.49 fee per transaction. Distribution of donations to organizations occurs within 15 – 45 days or on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

The Society has 1,299 followers on Facebook, which should roll over soon to 1,300. Recent photos received numerous likes and shares.

Public Service Announcements for November's MVRRH Open House on November 11th

*Meeting Minutes continued on Page 2*

### ***SCHEDULE of EVENTS***

**November 2, 2023  
Business Meeting**

**November 11, 2023  
National Model  
Railroad Month  
Open House??  
**Workers Needed!****

**December 7, 2023  
Business Meeting**

**December 16 & 17  
Holiday Open House??  
**Workers Needed!****

**January 1, 2024  
Operating Session??**

**January 4, 2024  
Business Meeting**

**February 1, 2024  
Business Meeting**



*Minutes continued from Page 1*

from 10 to 4 honoring National Model Railroad Month will go out on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Rich prepared flyers which are available in the Society lobby area.

**Fundraising :(Eric H.)**

The committee has had informal discussions of ideas for bringing in revenue streams. Rich H. mentioned reinstating the Visiting Engineer Program. Previously we requested a \$5 donation in exchange for the opportunity to operate a train from one end of the layout to the other. The committee will meet briefly following the business meeting.

**Membership: (Rich H.)**

No changes.

**Donations:(Rich H.)**

A small donation was received recently.

**Old Business:**

None reported

**New Business:**

Wally V. offered to have a crank organ and a parrot outside the Society entrance to attract visitor to our Holiday Open House. So moved by Rich H., seconded by Jon H., approved unanimously without further discussion.

Richard T. mentioned the issue of sales of Jon H's products when Jon is not present. Jon will look into providing a tablet set up to handle purchases. The question of how to handle credit card service fees came up. Jon suggested that a member selling products or the Society accepting a credit card for a purchase should cover any such fees. This matter will be brought to a vote once a system is in place. Wally V. moved that members be made aware that prices should reflect increased cost due to fees. The motion was seconded by Rich H. and approved unanimously.

Keith D. moved that member email addresses be omitted from future newsletters. This follows a recent spate of spam messages to members. Second by Wally V., unanimous approval.

**LAYOUTS:**

**O Gauge :(Rich H.)**

Progress continues with rock wall, tunnel portals, etc., gluing down paper towels in preparation for final scenery materials.

**HO Scale: (Keith D.)**

The upper level grade construction over Maryville is progressing and additional track was painted recently.

**Gary D.:** Mainline switch controls are now working and focus now moves to reverse staging.

**N Scale Layout: Max McD .:**

Track work is slowly progressing as switch wiring is taking some time. West side turnouts are ready to connect. Track will be glued down soon with the hope of being operational by the Holiday Open House. Control panel construction is under way.

**For the Good of the Order:**

Rich H.: The Mid-Ohio Valley Model Railroad Club hosts their Model Train Show and Sale at WVU Parkersburg on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Meanwhile, the Kruger Street Toy and Train Museum hosts multiple events in November and December, including the Kruger Street Model Train Show on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 2pm. Dealer set up at 9am.

Keith D.: Keith and Frank B. will go to the Berea, OH train show on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> with room for two additional passengers.

Wally V. described upcoming Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) events: Beginning

Railfanning with Ed Johnston on October 17<sup>th</sup>, and a presentation on the East Broad Top RR on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

Richard T. related his experiences riding the Tygart Valley Flyer recently.

Jon H. mentioned plans for A-frame signs, a book cart for the lobby and the need to refresh the lobby displays.

Bill H. discussed the need to better coordinate lighting and which switches to turn off at the end of a session. Dave E. suggested color dots (sale tags) to better indicate which switches to throw.

Adjournment: 7:37pm following multiple motions and seconds.

*Eric J. Hopkins,  
Secretary MVRHRS*



**ARTICLES WANTED**

Space is available for members to write an article for the newsletter. It may be about your model railroad, a new model you just built or acquired, a railfan trip you recently took or about any railroad related topic. Just type it up and send it to: Rich Henderson, Editor at: [trainman430@comcast.net](mailto:trainman430@comcast.net)

Please allow two (2) weeks before the next newsletter is published.

***Mon Valley Railroad  
Historical Society  
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***Our Society Website:***

<https://MVRRHHS.org>

***Our Society  
facebook page:***

[https://www.facebook.com/  
MVRRHHS](https://www.facebook.com/MVRRHHS)