

# ***TRAIN OF THOUGHT***

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

### **October, 2022**



### ***EDITORS NOTE***

October, warm days, cool nights and unfortunately Shorter days! I want to thanks to all the members who have helped us with the construction of our new HO scale, O gauge & N scale layouts. Work continues every Thursday evening and sometimes on a Tuesday afternoon, so come and help us, join in on the fun that is the hobby of Model Railroading.

The Back to School Open House was a success with lots of visitors asking lots of questions and admiring the work we have done. They can't wait to come back ans see our progress.

Our next Open House will be a one day affair on Saturday, November 5, 2022 in honor of National Model Railroad Month. Mark that date as we always need members help!

Hope to see you soon and remember Model Railroading is Fun!

Happy Training!

*Rich Henderson, Editor*



### ***Minutes of the September 8, 2022 Business Meeting***

President Richard T. called the meeting to order at 7 PM with 14 members, including 5 officers, attending.

The meeting began with a statement of gratitude for those members who helped with the successful August 27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> Back to School Open House. A member reported instances of children playing under the HO layout, a potential safety concern and something to be aware of and discouraged in future.

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

Keith D. moved to approve the minutes as published in the newsletter, with seconds from Gary D. and Kenton C. Approved as amended to correct a typo – misspelling of a member's name.

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

Financial transactions and status for the month of August, 2022, including income from the Open House. The MVRRHHS remains solvent and financially sound.

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

Facebook posts related to the Open House received enthusiastic responses. Followers remain stable in numbers. Recently posted photos garnered multiple likes and shares.

*Meeting Minutes continued on Page 2*

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

**October 6, 2022  
Business Meeting**

**November 2, 2022  
Business Meeting**

**National Model Railroad  
Month Open House  
November 5, 2022**

**10am til 4pm  
Workers Needed!**

**December 1, 2022  
Business Meeting**

**Holiday Open House  
December 17 & 18 2022  
Workers Needed!**

**Santa & Mrs. Claus will be here on  
Saturday from 1pm til 4pm**

**January 5, 2023  
Business Meeting**



*Minutes continued from Page 1*

**Business Express Ad Cars (Eric H.):**

No new accounts. Michael H. suggested that we place the Business Express on the HO layout, perhaps in the staging area, during the next open house or two, while construction continues.

**Membership (Rich H.):**

Nothing to report.

**Donations:**

No one had checked the caboose before meeting time.

**Old Business:** Christmas decoration plans: Keith D. and Rich H. met with Mall management, who are interested in having some sort of display at Center Court. The offer of assistance from MVRRHHS was well received.

Mall concourse O gauge layout: Dave E. will attempt to clean and / or repair the coin slot apparatus in concert with Mall staff. Richard T. suggested conversion to pushbutton and timer operation if the coin box cannot be resurrected.

**New Business:** None

**LAYOUTS: O Gauge (Rich H.):** The outer main ran perfectly during the Open House. Construction continues with grades and the tunnel, with some of the inner drops added. Two uncoupling tracks will be installed. Approximately 10 buildings are available with more needed. Some will eventually be illuminated.

**HO Scale Layout (Michael H.):** Mike circulated a modified plan for the east end staging changes include:

1. Stub end rather than loop construction
2. Reduced footprint allows divider to be closed during open house events to block some noise and

allow for additional sale tables, as we've already been using

3. Operated as staging with an engine escape crossover on arrival track
4. Industrial switching area for use during operating sessions
5. Possible second level above staging

A motion by Mike to accept the HO layout design modification from loop to stub-end staging received a second from Rich H. and unanimous approval with no discussion.

Eric M. continues to make progress laying track as Gary D. progresses with the interlocking and main yard. Risers in the peninsula are now all in place. Supplies: wire expected soon; turnouts – adequate supply for current needs. We may need additional cork roadbed soon. The HO Layout Task Force meets Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss operational details, including crossover locations The team aims to have the lower level running by the December open house. Wire for the HO layout is expected soon. Gary D. offered instructions for bus wiring – rear rail of each track will be white. Any needed color coding of conductors will be accomplished using tape.

**N Scale Layout (Greg M.)** Still working on the layout plan, with some discussions of overall preferences taking place. Generally we want to install terrain before laying track. Keith D. offered kudos for the extensive Unitrack layout setup and run during the Open House.

**For the Good of the Order:** Niedzalkoski's Train Shop in Jeannette, PA hosts a 10% off sale Monday (date?)  
Flyer available for Mid-Ohio Valley Train show at WVU Parkersburg Brea show October 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup>

N Scale Weekend at Altoona (museum?), September 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>

Motion to adjourn and multiple seconds at 7:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Eric J. Hopkins,  
Secretary MVRRHHS*

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