

TRAIN OF THOUGHT

MON VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc.

August, 2026



EDITORS NOTE

Fall is on its way and so is our Back to School Model Railroad Open House is coming up fast. Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 29th from 10am til 4pm and on Sunday, August 30th from 12 noon til 4pm. We need all members at the station for this event.

Work continues on all three model railroad layouts. Details & scenery are progressing on the O, HO & N scale layouts. Come check it out and give us a hand. These are your model railroads that members are building for your enjoyment. Please think about helping out where ever & when ever you can. Building them is half the fun!

I hope everyone is having a great and safe time this Summer. Come see us!

Remember, Model Railroading is Fun!

Rich Henderson, Editor



Minutes of the July 2, 2026 Business Meeting

Call to order by President Richard T. at 7:00 pm with 5 members and 6 officers, for a total of 11 attending.

Minutes of the previous meeting:

Rich H. moved that the minutes of the June 7th business meeting be approved as published in the June newsletter; second by Wally V. Motion approved unanimously without further discussion.

Treasurer's report: (Keith D.)

With expenses somewhat exceeding income for June, the Society nonetheless remains in strong financial condition.

Publicity: (Rich H.)

Facebook follower are down slightly to 1,722 with plenty of likes and comments on recent posts, including old logos and the new curved stone arch bridge at Valley Crossing on the HO layout. Back to School promotional materials are being organized and will go out soon.

Fundraising: (Richard T.):

Nothing to report.

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

**August 6, 2026
Business Meeting**

**Back to School
Open House
August 29 & 30, 2026**

**September 3, 2026
Business Meeting**

**October 1, 2026
Business Meeting**

**November 5, 2026
Business Meeting**

**National Model
Railroad Month
Open House
November, 7&8, 2026?**



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Membership (Rich H.):

No new members in June but at least one prospective young member visiting the Society lately, especially the HO layout.

Donations (Rich H.):

The Society realized modest gains from contributions left in the caboose as well as sales of model trains and / or accessories.

Eric H. reported on his meeting on Tuesday, 6/30 with Millie Karlin regarding the potential donation of buildings and rolling stock from an HO layout built by her husband, Alan, and their children. The track work is sectional, apparently code 100. The layout contains many buildings along with several engines and various cars and was constructed on two 4' x 8' sheets of plywood set in an 'L' shape. Eric offered to help inventory, detach and pack buildings and equipment. Assistance from other members with valuation will be appreciated. Eric will circulate photos that he took of the layout.

Facilities:

Glass doors and shelves needed for the new museum cabinets. (See additional discussion under New Business)

Train Show: (Richard T.):

Richard suggested that the Society begin buying tables for the show as they become available, e.g. at auction. Wally V. moved that the President have the discretion to authorize the purchase of tables up to a \$1,000 limit; second by Bill B. The motion was approved unanimously with no further discussion.

The Mountaineer Train Show takes place on the third Sunday in March 2027 (3/21). Some vendors expressed interest in a two-day event. If this route is taken, then those who still want to attend only

one day may still do so. Wally V. cautioned that overnight security should be the responsibility of Mall staff.

Old business:

None Reported.

New business:

Discussion of the potential use of the far back room where restaurant tables are stored stems from conversations that took place early in our tenure in the Mall. Inclusion of the first two spaces needs to be formalized before any renovations begin.

Wally V. suggested that the Museum Committee begin their work by creating an inventory of items currently held / displayed. Each item should have an ID tag attached corresponding to a full description in the inventory. The tags stay with items in storage. Stock museum forms should be used for cataloging display items. A used set of dresser drawers will be helpful for storing items off-display. Richard T. suggested including photographs as part of the inventory process.

Gary D. mentioned the past donation of railroad related paperwork that should be included in the museum holdings.

Richard T. moved that the Society act to purchase glass shelves and doors for the new museum cabinets as soon as practicable; second by Wally V. The membership present passed the motion unanimously without discussion.

LAYOUTS:

O Gauge :(Rich H.)

Rich H. expressed the need for additional drop wires to power part of the inside main track. He will approach Bill H. Dave E. The wired and connectors are already available.

HO Scale:

Gary D. reported that much of the signal work in the vicinity of DS and ME towers is completed to an initial stage. Optical detectors are mostly installed now. With field control nearing completion, the focus will shift to the construction of a control board for remote operation of the switch plant from the office. Gary, Bob and Keith contributed to the completion of fascia and DCC connectors near the Indian Creek Yard. Richard T. related that more trees are being constructed and planted with the goal of installing at least 30 per week.

N Scale Layout:

No update available at meeting time.

Concourse O Gauge Display:

Richard T. expressed the need to prioritize getting the concourse layout moved by Mall staff, per their offer. Bob T. suggested getting it moved and operating in time for the Holiday Open House.

Concourse O Gauge Display:

(Discussed under Facilities) The move to a location closer to the Society space was approved by Mall management a few months ago. They will handle installation of the new electrical drop required to power the layout. Richard T. suggested that the matter be taken up for review with management next week (7/6).

For the Good of the Order:

Nothing reported.

Adjournment:

Rich H. with second by Gary D. Unanimous approval with no discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric H., MVRRHs Secretary



**Mon Valley Railroad
Historical Society
OFFICERS**

President
Richard Turton

Vice President
Kenton Colvin

Secretary
Eric Hopkins

Treasurer

Keith DeVault

Membership
Rich Henderson

Immediate Past President
Gary Deavers

Our Society Website:
<https://MVRRHHS.org>

**Our Society
facebook page:**
[https://www.facebook.com/
MVRRHHS](https://www.facebook.com/MVRRHHS)

***From the Desk of Gary
Deavers***

AUGUST

I must confess to not remembering this one at all. Did I have an aversion to passenger service? The pretty blonde escaped my notice at that age. In any event, the entre on the tray's left may be okay, but I would prefer a nice garden salad instead of the cottage cheese thingy the steward is serving. And where is the coffee pot???

