



WEST VIRGINIAN RAILWAY COMPANY **MOUNTAIN SUBDIVISION**

The HO scale layout of the Mon Valley Railroad Club is multi-level, with 600 feet of single track mainline. Industry is centered on coal and paper, with QD bridge traffic to industrial centers in Baltimore, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Charleston. The schematic at left offers an understanding of the basic route. Additional industrial spurs are omitted. Specific schematics are posted at each town.

Many trains operate with two-person crews and can originate in staging, St. George, or on the Elk and Cheat subdivisions. Passenger, fast freight, extra freight, and local freight are run using a timetable or with dispatched train orders. Additional jobs include Dispatcher, Train Order Operator/Crew Caller, three yardmasters, and an assistant yardmaster. Consult the Call Board for open positions.

Trains are controlled with a Digitrax DCC system, while most turnouts are hand thrown. Familiarity with DCC is helpful, but not required. Additionally, if you own a Digitrax throttle, please bring it along. Extras are always welcome to maximize the day's activities. Visiting equipment is welcome, but must be approved for use before the day of the operating session. We try to ensure the railroad is ready to go on the big day.

The timetable governs operation and usually runs on real time. Variations, alterations and amendments to the timetable are carried out with train orders. A Train Order Operator delivers these to stations, for pick up by the appropriate crew. Be alert for train order signals at stations. Crews are also required to OS the position of their train at each open office along the mainline. Stationary two-way radios are available at three locations: Ravenswood, Patterson Creek, and St. George. These can be used to OS from other points on the railroad.

Crews on local freights must set out flags before engaging in work. Uncoupling can be done with skewers and dowel rods located near each town. Try not to handle equipment unless necessary.

Questions are encouraged, but try to keep chatter to a minimum. Food and snacks are welcome, but please try to keep these non-greasy. Cold sodas and hot coffee will be available. A full day session will have a break for lunch, and we try to coordinate food delivery when the break begins. All are asked to wash hands after eating.

We look forward to hosting you in Morgantown, W. Va.